FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ZORIN SEES REAGAN CONTRADICTIONS ON GENEVA TALKS

LD191848 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 19 Jan 83

[From "The World Today" program by Valentin Zorin]

[Text] I would like to draw your attention to two mutually contradictory statements made within days of each other by President Reagan. I shall begin with the first statement.

It was reported that the President sent a letter in early January to Jack Kemp, a leader of the Republican Party's rightwing and a member of the House of Representatives, saying that if Congress does not approve the White House proposals concerning the deployment of MX missiles, the possibility should not be ruled out that the Washington administration may discontinue the Soviet-American talks on limiting the strategic armaments and may recall its delegation from Geneva.

Let me remind you, comrades, that toward the end of December, Congress, under clear pressure from American public opinion, made some steps, however halfhearted, toward blocking the government proposal concerning the deployment of these new missiles. In an effort to put pressure on Congress, the White House started saying, on the one hand, that the deployment of these missiles is necessary in order to put pressure on the Soviet Union at the current talks; and on the other hand, as we see, the White House is threatening that it will discontinue all talks if the MX deployment program is not approved.

Reagan's letter to Kemp was written at the beginning of this month. In a television appearance last Friday, President Reagan stated something quite the reverse. He said that the United States will stay at the negotiating table in Geneva as long as it is necessary, until at least some progress is achieved. The contradiction in these two mutually exclusive statements, which furthermore were made virtually following each other, is quite apparent. What caused this confusion in the statements coming from the highest level in Washington?

It seems that after the letter to Congressman Kemp -- which had not been intended for publication -- was made public, Washington was put in quite a pickle and there was serious concern among Washington's allies. The whole world was deeply impressed by Comrade Andropov's statement in his speech on the USSR's 60th anniversary in which the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee stressed that it is quite laughable to argue that a new weapons system such as the MX missiles could possibly serve to help the success of disarmament talks. If Washington seriously believes that the new weapons system will be a trump card in the Americans' hands at the talks, then Washington should know that this trump card is a fake. This unambiguous statement made before the whole world exposed the groundlessness of Washington's dishonorable play. Under such conditions, the White House was forced to beat a hasty retreat by disowning its own statements. However, it is hardly likely that such swings could fool world public opinion. They merely throw more light on Washington's political double-dealing and show where the responsibility lies for the fact that the important talks aimed at limiting nuclear armaments are at a standstill today.

NOVOYE VREMYA DISCUSSES MX FUNDING PROBLEMS

PM191635 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 3, 14 Jan 83 pp 20-21

[Article by correspondent Yu. Gudkov: "A Signal to the President"]

[Text] New York -- Until recently the Republican administration has found it comparatively easy to stifle criticism and get bills adopted by Congress.

It was different at the session which ended just before the New Year. The so-called "Caribbean Basin Initiative," which had been proclaimed as the start of a new era in U.S economic and trade relations with the countries of Central America, died without much of a debate. The bill on immigration policy reform, about which there was an incredible amount of talk last year, sank beneath the weight of amendments. Six of the thirteen fiscal bills have not been adopted although the new fiscal year began back in October. Even the plan to increase the tax on gasoline ran into very strong opposition.

But initially the 97th session had been unusually accommodating. It adopted America's biggest ever military expenditure program -- $232 billion -- and the most reactionary social legislation of recent years.

But instead of the promised prosperity the country encountered the worst depression since the thirties and unprecedentedly high unemployment. Instead of a balanced budget it had a deficit approaching $200 billion. The blatant stake on the arms race and preparation for nuclear war had caused a mass protest and charges against the administration of irresponsibility with regard to the key questions of war and peace.

"According to a view shared by both parties, the President has run into trouble over his domestic and foreign policies," the commentator James Reston says, summing up the situation. Hence the disintegration following the November congressional elections of the "Reagan coalition," which ensured support for government programs, and the series of subsequent failures.

The administration suffered a major defeat on the question of the appropriation of $1 billion for the series production of MX ICBM's although $2.5 billion were approved for further scientific research work on the MX program, $3.9 billion for the production of B-1 bombers and $3.5 billion for one of the two new nuclear aircraft carries and so forth. The arms race spiral continues.

The dispute over MX concerned the main basing mode. The White House set up an emergency commission which will study methods of deploying the "Peacekeeper." The commission is headed by former presidential national security assistant Scowcroft. In a letter to Congress dated 4 January Reagan resorted to overt blackmail, stating that if the capitol did not approve the MX missile, the proposals on strategic arms reduction announced in Geneva would have to be revised. It is difficult to say that the moment whether these maneuvers will help speed up the passage of the program. It is clear though that the failure to agree to allocate funds for the production of MX is very significant. The protest against the method of deployment was merely the "start," House of Representatives Speaker Thomas O'Neill stressed: "It goes much deeper." According to THE NEW YORK TIMES, "the powerful wave of skepticism regarding MX reflects the legislators' belief that in a period of dramatic curtailment of social programs the electorate wants the Pentagon's budget to come under closer scrutiny."

Of course, doubts of this kind have existed since the moment the program first appeared. In the attempt to stifle them, both the White House and the Pentagon have actively popularized the story that the MX is to act first and foremost as a "trump card" at strategic arms limitation talks. This argument has given rise to frank skepticism, and the MX has won the reputation of the most costly "trump card" that every existed.

The attempt to represent the MX as a "Peacekeeper," as the official name for the missile puts it, met with no success. To the chagrin of the White House, which thought up this name, the "Peacekeeper" in the form of the latest, most destructive model of ballistic missile became the target for open ridicule. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger received the title of "joker of the year" in a competition held by the "association to encourage humor in international relations." "Soon they will be calling napalm 'bath foam,'" the well-known American humorist Johnny Carson remarked.

Commenting on the dilemma facing congressmen, the magazine NEW REPUBLIC stresses: "When the President says we will never inflict the first strike, and then sets about introducing the MX, he is misleading the public, since the MX is first and foremost a first-strike weapon. The American Government's adoption of the MX is not only an improvement in technology, it is a transformation of strategy."

During the recent hearings in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Senator Joseph Biden permitted himself, for the first time, to disagree in public with the central argument of the supporters of the arms race -- the myth of the "Soviet threat." Answering C. Weinberger, he stated: "It is the Soviet Union that should expect the worst, since we are the only country to have used nuclear weapons and since we are the only ones demonstrating the readiness to resort to such weapons."

At the same session Senator Dan Quayle warned the defense secretary: "The conviction is forming among the public that the Pentagon and military spending have simply gone out of control." "I was elected," he said, "together with your boss by voters inclined in favor of strengthening defense, but today my mail tells me that the mood has swung round 180 degrees." Public opinion polls confirm this observation. According to the latest figures the number of supporters of an increase in military spending has fallen from 71 percent during the 1980 elections to 17 percent last fall.

Nonetheless official Washington tried to reject out of hand the new Soviet proposals aimed at limiting both the strategic potential of the two states and medium-range missile arms. Here it is no secret that this haste is explained above all by the desire to prevent the public from making a correct assessment of the new Soviet initiative and to prevent disagreement with the course of the arms race from growing stronger. The calculation proved groundless. There are a growing number of statements and publications directly supporting the Soviet proposals, even in Washington itself. In this connection the New York DAILY NEWS warns: "The political thrashing which Ronald Reagan has received in the last 2 months is only the beginning of the fierce battles which await him in the second half of his presidency.

IZVESTIYA: U.S. PREPARING 'NUCLEAR WAR AGAINST USSR'

LD191926 Moscow TASS in English 1906 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 19 TASS -- The United States is making strenuous preparations for nuclear war against the Soviet Union and other Warsaw Treaty countries and thinks it possible to actually unleash it, IZVESTIYA concludes on the basis of an analysis of a secret paper of the Pentagon and the National Security Council which has come to light.

The Pentagon, according to the newspaper, hopes to win a nuclear war.

The document attaches much importance to the Pentagon's plans to practise armed intervention against other states, including those in the Middle East. The generals believe that intervention should be carried out when the U.S. interests are "threatened." U.S. troops, according to their plans, are to be brought into play, for instance, if "domestic disturbances" flare up in Saudi Arabia.

IZVESTIYA continues: The White House publicly states its intention to seek agreement with the Soviet Union on the limitation and reduction of strategic arms. The Pentagon's documents, however, show that the United States would like to continue the arms race, including the race in nuclear armaments, and will not even shrink from using them.

The reassurances of the administration with peaceful overtones, to all appearances, are [words indistinct] the public. The White House is going in this way to create the impression that it presumably is concerned seriously with the world situation and sincerely would like to reach agreements on arms control. In reality, as the Pentagon plans (?and instructions) of the administration indicate, Washington has no intention to renounce its war preparations.

FALIN VIEWS U.S. NUCLEAR WARFARE STRATEGY

LD190036 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1825 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow, 19 Jan (TASS) -- There has never been and is not now any reasonable alternative to detente. Commonsense must sooner or later force its way into the dark corridors of power in Washington. One would like to think that this will not happen too late, Valentin Falin says in an article entitled "Before It Is Too Late," published in the 23 January edition of the weekly MOSKOVSKIY NOVOSTI.

Today the rulers of the United States are engaged in a campaign not only against the USSR. They are at odds with practically every state. The official course is aimed at the "restoration" according to its taste and its image. In brief, we are faced with an imperial recidivist with an allergy to peaceful cooperation and equal relations between peoples. Here are the roots of tension -- here are the sources of the majority of conflicts -- the article points out.

As the author stresses, of all dangers that the peoples have come up against up to now, the nuclear threat is undoubtedly the worst. If the folly of the nuclear arms race is not stopped now, then this folly will strike at mankind. This and only this is the question.

Recently, the Pentagon completed elaborations of the latest "integrated strategic plan for conducting a protracted nuclear war" against the USSR. The authors of the plan view the creation of a potential that would allow the destruction of the "enemy's" main political and military leadership centers in the initial stage of the conflict as the most important prerequisite for achieving final victory in a nuclear war.

The same aim is being pursued by the Pentagon leaders' striving to complement the present "American triad" -- ground-based intercontinental missiles, missiles on submarines and heavy bomber aviation -- with high-precision medium-range strategic missiles, long-range missiles and weapons deployed in space or controlled from space.

State responsibility, the author sums up, demands the very greatest circumspection in dealing with modern weapons. There can be no victor in nuclear war. A nuclear war can be started only by a politician who has decided to commit suicide and drag mankind behind him into the abyss. No doctrines of first, preventative or any other strikes will save the aggressor from retribution.

PORTUGALOV REJECTS INTERMEDIATE MISSILE AGREEMENT

LD201034 Moscow TASS in English 1004 GMT 20 Jan 83

["Compromises and Principles" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow January 20 TASS -- Most political observers in the West have now come to the conclusion that the Americans will fail to maintain their "zero" position at the Geneva talks of nuclear armaments in Europe. The Soviet proposals of December 21, 1982, have turned out to be very attractive to the West Europeans, so attractive that those on the other side of the Atlantic cannot pretend that nothing has happened, writes Nikolay Portugalov in the newspaper MOSCOW NEWS (January 23 issue).

Today in the West the newspaper columns, radio and T.V. broadcasts are not the only participants in the discussions of the means of achieving a compromise in Geneva. Certain prominent politicians are also joining in the process, proposing a so-called "intermediate agreement" or "intermediate solution" on medium-range weapons. It means that the Soviet Union will reduce the number of its medium-range missiles, while the Americans will deploy not 572 new missiles, as originally proposed, but a smaller number of missiles in this region.

But the "intermediate agreement" proposed by Western politicians does not represent a compromise: It demands of the Soviet Union a basic rejection of the substance and principles of equal security.

But the deployment of the first Perching-2s on West German territory and the first cruise missiles in Sicily, creates a new situation. The Geneva talks on nuclear armaments in Europe would become deprived of the realistic basis upon which they are now being conducted, only because the Soviet Union would be forced to take immediate measures to restore the balance which has been disturbed in order to ensure for itself and its allies security equal to that of the NATO countries.

The "intermediate agreement" is therefore absolutely unacceptable to the Soviet Union. The calculations that "the Russians will concede in the last minute" are illusory. It is not accidental that the Soviet side has already warned the West against such illusions! Principles are not waived in search of a compromise!

SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL PUBLISHES BOOK ON DISARMAMENT

PM181233 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Jan 83 Second Edition p 4

[S. Vishnevskiy review under the rubric "Books": "A Useful Anthology"]

[Text] The broad people's masses on the planet, being deeply concerned about the threat of nuclear war, are waging an active struggle to avert it. Marching in the front ranks of the peace supporters are Soviet public organizations uniting representatives of various professions, including scientists. Their activity in defense of peace is attested in a recently published anthology [footnote: Peace and Disarmament: Scientific Research, 1982 (Mir i Razoruzheniye: Nauchnyye Issledovaniya, 1982). Moscow, Nauka Publishing House, 1982] prepared by the Scientific Research Council of Peace and Disarmament. This council, set up in 1979 by the USSR Academy of Sciences, the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology and the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace, coordinates comprehensive research by various institutes and organizations on cardinal questions of international relations. An important place among its publications belongs to the "Peace and Disarmament" series. The new anthology is the second book in this series.

In their collective work scientists and specialists from various branches of knowledge, workers on party and state organs, journalists and masters of culture and religious figures examine various problems of war and peace.

The book analyzes various aspects of the struggle of the CPSU and the Soviet state for arms limitation and disarmament. In it a reasonable alternative to the imperialist policy of militarism and aggression is convincingly shown.

The reader will find in the anthology a review of concrete activity by Soviet public organizations, which make a weighty contribution to the international antiwar movement. The book includes Soviet foreign policy documents as well as materials from international forums on the problems of disarmament and detente.

PRAVDA ON NONALIGNED BUREAU MANAGUA COMMUNIQUE

PM191117 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Jan 83 Second Edition p 5

[Correspondent L. Kostanyan dispatch: "From Managua to Delhi"]

[Text] Managua, 15 Jan -- An extraordinary session of the nonaligned countries' Coordinating Bureau has ended in the Nicaraguan capital.

The choice of venue for such a forum was no accident. The venue was a country in which a people's revolution triumphed 3 and 1/2 years ago and which is experiencing growing attacks from followers of the old regime dug in abroad. The constant threat of intervention stems from neighboring states and is inspired by the Washington administration. The ministers and other delegation leaders meeting in Managua resolutely condemned the subversive actions against Nicaragua.

Some 116 delegations representing 85 countries, the most important international organizations and national liberation movements participated in the Managua meeting.

The final communique adopted at the session devotes primary attention to the dangerous tension in Central America and the Caribbean, which is a consequence of the U.S. interventionist policy. The document voices profound concern in connection with the growing threat of aggression against Cuba and condemns the imperialist interference in El Salvador's internal affairs.

The foreign ministers of the Coordinating Bureau's member-states voiced solidarity with the Chilean people, condemned repression in Guatemala and demanded strict U.S. fulfillment of the Panama Canal treaties, as well as the liquidation of hotbeds of colonialism in Latin America, including in the Malvinas (Falkland) Islands.

The communique states that the Nonaligned Movement's members voice support for the desires of the peoples of the region to secure respect for their right to sovereign and independent existence. The document also recognizes the right of the peoples of Latin America to determine their political, economic and social systems themselves, without outside interference. The forum once again sharply stigmatized neocolonialism, racism, militarism and other manifestations of imperialism.

The communique will lie as an important document on the sessions table of the seventh summit conference of the Nonaligned Movement countries to be held in March in the capital of India -- Delhi.

BAKU ATTACKS U.S. POLICY, LAUDS MANAGUA MEETING

GF191910 Baku International Service in Azeri 1300 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Unattributed commentary: "The Nonaligned Are Opposed to the Imperialist U.S. Policy"]

[Text] Dear listeners, the extraordinary meeting of the Coordination Bureau of the nonaligned countries has concluded its work in Nicaragua. A total of 116 delegations representing various countries, national liberation movements and international organizations in the world participated in the deliberations. Iran's delegation headed by Velayati also took an active part in the meeting.

The meeting devoted its deliberations on the situation in Central and South America. As a result of the U.S. policy of interfering in the internal affairs of foreign countries and peoples, a dangerous situation has emerged in the region in the effort made toward peace -- a state of affairs which is similar to that in other parts of the world.

U.S. imperialism is threatening Cuba's existence. It is systematically disrupting Cuba's air and sea services. The United States has also embarked on an economic blockade against Cuba and [words indistinct]. In fact, it pursues hostile activities against that country. The United States is also continuing its offensive actions against Nicaragua through Honduras. El Salvador, on the other hand, has been subjected to U.S. intervention.

The representatives of the nonaligned, who met in the capital of Nicaragua, condemned the impudent U.S. interference in the affairs of the peoples in the region and that country's military threats and blackmailing economic policy. The representatives of various countries who condemned U.S. policy in Latin America actually voiced their opposition to Washington's similar imperialist offensive policy toward the regions in which their own countries are located. In short, they opposed U.S. policy toward the Middle East and the Near East. Is this policy less offensive than the U.S. policy pursued toward Latin America? Definitely not.

Washington, which cooperates with Israel in the Middle East, has put into effect a policy of mass genocide against the Palestinian Arab people. Through (?facilities provided by) Washington, the Israeli militarists carry out merciless and savage actions in Lebanon. Meanwhile, U.S. conspiracies against Iran are also continuing. These conspiracies have attained very dangerous proportions. The well-informed NEW YORK TIMES has written the following on the matter:

Because of its great hope in Iran, the United States is organizing secret moves against it. It is consolidating Iranian refugees who have linked up with military groups in eastern Turkey close to Iranian borders. Turkey has denied this. In addition to this, the United States finances the activities of Iranian refugees both within and outside Iran.

How can all this be regarded as different from the policy U.S. imperialism pursues toward Nicaragua for example? As for U.S. interference in Afghanistan's affairs, this interference is such a shameless [words indistinct] that it has been described as an undeclared war against the Afghan people being waged by U.S. imperialism and international reactionary elements.

The United States has been sending its robbers against the DRA, robbers who have been paid hundreds of thousands of [words indistinct]. The United States has been luring robbers to side with it from among the Afghan counterrevolutionaries with money. However, it is unnecessary to talk about how dangerous such conspiracies are for peace both in the said region and in the world at large. The peace-loving peoples of the world, in order to foil imperialist ploys aimed at weakening general peace and preventing them from pushing humanity into the peril of nuclear war, must unite their efforts in the struggle against the conspiracies of offensive imperialist forces for the sake of international security and peace.

This is the conclusion drawn long ago by the peace-loving humanity. A good example has been displayed by the unity in the extraordinary session of the Coordinating Bureau of the nonaligned countries. Undoubtedly, the summit meeting of the nonaligned countries will constitute an important bridge for the unity of peace-loving forces in the struggle being waged for peace. Currently, active preparations are under way for this conference in a number of Asian, African and Latin American countries.

As for the Soviet Union, we highly appreciate the peace-loving efforts made by the nonaligned countries. As Yuriy Andropov, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, said in his address to the jubilant ceremony dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Union, we respect the Nonaligned Movement. This is due to the fact that their peace-loving policy gives useful [word indistinct] to international life.

Particularly at this time we give [words indistinct] to those who struggle for their independence, freedom and existence, to those who are compelled to ward off the blows of aggressors and to those who are subjected to the threat of aggressors.

U.S. PREPARATIONS IN INDIAN OCEAN CAUSE 'CONCERN'

LD172324 Moscow TASS in English 1805 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 17 TASS -- By TASS news analyst Vasiliy Kharkov:

The U.S. rapid escalation of military preparations in the Indian Ocean gives cause for grave concern to countries in that vast area. They regard the expansion of American military presence there as a real threat to peace and security. These fears of the coastal states have grown even more after the United States set up its so-called "Central Command", Centcom for short. Its sphere of operations includes 19 countries situated nearly along the entire perimetre of the Indian Ocean. Assigned to Centcom are the interventionist Rapid Deployment Forces, military bases and strong points of the Pentagon in the region, as well as U.S. aircraft-carrier units concentrated in the Indian Ocean.

The point at issue is, thus, Washington's aspiration to employ methods of military interference to (?secure) the dominant positions of the United States (?in) the basin of the Indian Ocean.

An attempt is being made, in fact, to turn that region into an arena of confrontation contrary to the U.N. decision to transform the Indian Ocean into a peace zone.

The buildup of the American military might in the Indian Ocean, directed against the sovereignty of many littoral states, is being undertaken with a view to exerting pressure on them in order to push them away from their independent foreign policy course and assure U.S. control over the natural wealth of the region, first of all oil.

The removal of all foreign bases and prevention of the establishment of new ones is the key issue in the transformation of the Indian Ocean into a peace zone. The United States now maintains in the region about thirty bases and strong points. Nearly [word indistinct] American servicemen are deployed on them or in direct proximity to them. There are plans to station an 8,000-strong Marines brigade on the largest base of Diego Garcia.

Nuclear and chemical weapons are (?reported) to be kept at that base. All interventionist Rapid Deployment Forces are expected to be armed with such weapons. Half of the bombers aboard the (?American) aircraft-carrier cruising in the Indian Ocean are capable of carrying nuclear weapons, the Indian PATRIOT points out.

Washington thwarted an international conference on the Indian Ocean in 1981. But the U.N. General Assembly reaffirmed the need for convening such a conference not later than in the first half of 1983. Facts show that the United States is seeking to prevent the holding of the forum.

The Indian Ocean is a sphere of vital interests of the states situated on its shores, rather than of the United States which, situated thousands of kilometres away, is seeking to establish there its hegemony.

FIRST 2 YEARS OF REAGAN ADMINISTRATION REVIEWED

Bovin on Reagan Policies

LD192322 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2015 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow, 19 Jan (TASS) -- "Obvious misses and failures in U.S. domestic and foreign policy -- this is the result of the Reagan administration's 2 years in power, an administration which has now reached its midterm," IZVESTIYA observer Aleksandr Bovin writes. "The present U.S. President," he points out, "came to power expressing the interests and moods of the rightwing, the most conservative and aggressive flank of the American bourgeoisie. It is precisely to those interests and moods that the program proclaimed by Reagan responds." "However, this program of the President has added nothing to the 'grandeur of America.' Rather the opposite. His foreign policy is a rigid, uncompromising confrontation with the Soviet Union and the entire socialist community; open counteraction to liberation and anti-imperialist movements; intensive development of military might, aimed at breaking the established military-strategic parity and at securing a U.S. victory in a possible nuclear missile war," the observer writes. "Rigid ideological frameworks [skhemy] continue to suppress feelings of reality. By delaying its reply to the latest Soviet proposals, the American Administration has shown once more that it is not ready for serious talks in Geneva, and this can only be regretted."

"In its domestic policy the Reagan administration is striving to sharply reduce the role of the federal government in solving socioeconomic questions; to lower taxes, which primarily concerns the wealthy strata of the population; to achieve a balanced state budget, thus putting life into private enterprise initiative. However, 'Reaganomics' is on its last legs. It does not matter how much talk there is about a certain drop in inflation and in the base rate, there is not a single economist who would dare to say that the United States is approaching an era of prosperity."

"As far as the second half of President Reagan's term of office is concerned, the U.S. Administration will, evidently, when knocking against the sharp corners of life, adapt itself, maneuver, switch emphases and phraseology," the observer points out. "But what is most important will, apparently, remain unaltered -- not one serious problem will be cardinally solved." In the opinion of the observer, no "prosperity" and no "grandeur" can be foreseen in the United States.

Ponomarev on Reagan Performance

PM191503 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Jan 83 Second Edition p 3

[Colonel M. Ponomarev "Military-Political Review": "Washington's Calculations and Errors"]

[Text] Next week will mark 2 years since the advent to power in the United States of the new Republican administration headed by President Reagan. The approach of that date prompts reflection and provides a reason for summing up certain results and attempting to look into the immediate future of the United States.

How is the administration's 2 years of activity being assessed in the United States itself? With no fanfares, in any case. Public opinion polls show that its popularity has fallen to its lowest level. The majority of Americans believe that the much-vaunted election promises have not been kept and that the administration's foreign and domestic policy is suffering setback after setback. "The opinion shared by both parties is that the President is in trouble with both is domestic and his foreign policy," is how the prominent observer J. Reston describes the current situation in the United States. A. Lewis, another observer, puts it even more frankly: "Now, 2 years after Reagan entered office, the terrible suspicion is beginning to creep into Americans' minds that their country has an administration in office that is incapable of governing."

It must be said that U.S. activity gives every reason for such devastating assessments. Instead of the 9 million new jobs promised 2 years ago, there are at least 12 million unemployed, people abandoned by life. Instead of a balanced state budget there is a deficit approaching the unprecedented sum of $300 billion, which is a very heavy burden on the shoulders of every American. Instead of social peace there is infringement of labor union rights, brutal reprisals against the air traffic controllers and racial unrest erupting in one place after another. Instead of the consolidation of relations with allies and partners there have been "steel," "automobile" and other economic wars with them, illegal sanctions against uncompliant firms, and sharp disagreements on fundamental problems of foreign policy. Instead of the restoration of U.S. prestige the image being established in the eyes of all the peoples of the world is that of the United States as a world gendarme and a country whose ruling circles are pushing the situation in the direction of a nuclear catastrophe.

Gloomy prospects are taking shape before the United States. Let us turn again to the testimony of Americans themselves. A recent CBS TV broadcast said: "President Reagan has agreed with the gloomy economic forecast.... The recovery from the recession will be the slowest since World War II. The administration is anticipating a high level of unemployment exceeding the 10-percent mark this year." That is on the country's domestic scene. In its foreign policy, the comment by one of the administration's leaders is still its policy: "If the movement from cold war to detente is progress, we can no longer permit ourselves progress."

So can it be that during its term of office the Republican administration has not kept a single election promise? In fact it turns out that there is still one sphere where promises have been kept, and with a vengeance. In the sphere of military policy.

As life itself attests, in this respect the White House has no intention of being sidetracked from the course outlined 2 years ago -- the course toward worsening international tension, and toward confrontation, the arms race and military superiority. Accelerating the buildup of military might, U.S. imperialist circles are conducting a policy of strength, pressure, diktat, interference in other people's internal affairs and infringement of states' national independence and sovereignty and are striving to consolidate and recarve their "sphere of influence." All of this is complicating the international situation beyond belief, causing an increase in international tension and intensifying the threat of war. The policy of building up arms, particularly nuclear arms, is designed to increase the U.S. arsenal's destructive power many times over. Aimed at achieving military superiority, it will lead to the upsetting of international stability.

Furthermore, people across the ocean do not balk at talking aloud of their aims which are dangerous for the cause of peace. What is more, they boast of them. Thus, on the program for modernizing and building up the U.S. strategic nuclear forces proclaimed by President Reagan in October 1981, Washington is saying not without boasting that "no administration since Eisenhower's time has proposed a nuclear program of such breadth and scale." It is only for appearances that these misanthropic aims, schemes and programs are hidden behind talk of a "Soviet military threat" and a desire to "ensure U.S. security."

Of note in this respect is the recent press coverage by U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger where he gave a sort of report on progress in implementing the administration's pledges to "restore the might of America's defense forces." These pledges involve modernizing both the U.S. strategic offensive forces and the general purpose forces and increasing the readiness of U.S. Armed Forces to conduct military operations, or, in simpler terms, building up the arms race, primarily the nuclear arms race.

The production of B-1 bombers, the Pentagon chief said enthusiastically, is still ahead of schedule. The first Trident system submarine has been commissioned and a second will soon be finishing performance tests. The communication and administration system is being updated. It is true that the passage through Congress of appropriations for the deployment of MX ICBM's has hit a snag but there is good reason to hope that the obstacles to the creation of the system will be overcome. The number of formations and units on full combat readiness has increased 32 percent during the 2 years.

The last cited by C. Weinberger could be extended. In 1982 alone the number of U.S. servicemen overseas increased by nearly 30,000 men, including by over 18,000 in Europe. As U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT noted in this context, "the sharp increase in the number of U.S. servicemen overseas indicates important changes in U.S. global military policy." Evidence of these changes is also provided by the creation of new commands within the U.S. Armed Forces system -- the Caribbean, special forces, space and, finally, the so-called "Central" commands -- which is a substantial part of Washington's global militarist preparations and confirms its desire for world hegemonism and for domination of the fates of the peoples of the whole world.

New, even more sinister outlines of further militarist preparations are becoming increasingly clear. As THE WASHINGTON POST stresses, actual military spending in 1984 will "increase by 14 percent in comparison with the level approved by Congress for the current fiscal year." Appropriations for nuclear forces are increasing particularly rapidly. They will be 60 percent higher than during the Carter administration and will exceed this year's level by nearly 25 percent.

After that C. Weinberger allowed himself to throw his hands up and say: "A grave threat, a grave danger hangs over the country. Its essence lies in the inadequate efforts by our side in the defense sphere in recent years."

It is hard to imagine anything more hypocritical.

However tense the situation in the world may be as a result of the U.S. ruling circles' actions, real opportunities do exist for overcoming the dangerous stage in international relations. This was pointed out quite definitely in the Warsaw Pact states' Political Declaration adopted at the Political Consultative Committee conference in Prague. The fraternal countries' confidence of the correctness of such a conclusion is based on sober consideration of the real facts. If the military-strategic parity between the USSR and the United States and between the Warsaw Pact and NATO remains unchanged, the overall correlation of forces in the international arena is not in favor of the imperialist "hawks."

The Soviet Union, relying on its socialist allies and collaborating with all who value peace, is the main guard and guarantor of universal peace and international security. The Soviet peace initiatives promulgated at the ceremonial session in Moscow on the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation and the proposals put forward by the allied socialist states at the Prague conference indicate a realistic alternative to the slide toward nuclear catastrophe and a path toward consolidating detente and developing peaceful cooperation among states.

The Political Consultative Committee conference in Prague called on all states, particularly nuclear states, to display the political will and readiness for cooperation and to galvanize current talks and resume interrupted talks on a whole range of questions of ending the arms race. In accordance with the well-known USSR proposal and the will of hundreds of millions of people throughout the world, the fraternal countries supported the idea of a mutual freeze on USSR and U.S. strategic nuclear weapons and advocated appropriate measures for the monitoring the fulfillment of agreements in the arms reduction and disarmament spheres.

The Soviet Union and its allies and friends advocate that Europe be free of nuclear weapons -- both medium-range and tactical. If that cannot be done now they propose that a move be made toward the radical reduction of medium-range nuclear facilities in Europe on the basis of the principle of equality and equal security. They also advocate that Europe be free of chemical weapons and that practical steps be taken to reduce USSR and U.S. armed forces and armaments in Central Europe on the basis of mutual example.

The Warsaw Pact states declare that they do not intend to broaden their alliance's sphere of operation and call on the NATO countries to abandon the extension of their bloc's zone of operation to any other regions of the world.

Finally, the Political Consultative Committee conference in Prague proposed to the NATO states that a treaty be concluded on the mutual nonuse of military force and the maintenance of peaceful relations. The core of such a treaty lies in a reciprocal commitment by the participants in the two alliances not to be the first to use either nuclear or conventional weapons or, consequently, military force of any kind, against one another.

Such are the simple and rational proposals aimed at eliminating the international tension caused by Washington's actions. The adoption of these proposals cannot harm anyone and are bound to benefit everyone. If Washington continues to take the same path that it has been taking for 2 years, the Soviet Union will know how to reply to all threats that emerge effectively and promptly.

Domestic, Foreign Policies Assessed

LD191508 Moscow in English to North America 0000 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] The incumbent United States Administration has reached the midway point of its term in office. Now what about President Reagan's promises, made in his inaugural address? He spoke about a new beginning, about America's revitalization, about his intention to accomplish great things and secure jobs for all the Americans. The time has come to draw up an initial balance. Comments from our observer Igor Aleksandrov and this is what he writes:

Perhaps the most salient feature in the administration's activities is that it has not shown a sane approach, both on the domestic and foreign policy scenes. The administration has been taken unawares by many key trends and developments, something which could have been foreseen given a realistic approach. And accordingly, many of the basic programs promulgated by the administration have turned out to be unrealistic and ill-promised. The matter involves not only obvious miscalculations. The point is that the President's economic policy has suffered a fiasco resulting in 12 million unemployed. This is true of the entire policy course. The most serious miscalculation made by the new team at the White House seems to be its wrong appraisal of American public sentiments. On this issue many Republican policymakers have become victims of their own propaganda. They did believe [words indistinct] and that there had been a profound and stable right wing shift among the people. But the domestic developments in these 2 years have shown that it was no more than wishful thinking.

Before long a new swing in the public mood took place. More and more Americans are coming out against the open-ended build up in the military budget and all the more so since this is being done at the expense of social spending. This shift in public opinion has come about quite unexpectedly for the administration and what is more it has puzzled the administration.

The White House has certainly underrated the commonsense of the Americans and their level of perception and this is why many moves taken by the administration were hopeless [words indistinct]. Thus coming face to face with the tidal wave of antinuclear movements, the administration went so far as to proclaim the multimillion movement to be masterminded by foreign agitation.

But that insulting invention (?about the hand) of Moscow is a rehash of the propaganda of the McCarthy era and it misled no one. It didn't bring the opposition down and the referendum returned last November are eloquent proof of that.

There is no doubt that the yearning for peace and security is deepset among the broad popular masses. Millions of Americans are watching the administration with growing alarm as it has been steered toward a further arms race and dragging its feet on the nuclear arms limitation talks, as it has been opting for a confrontation and not cooperation between the United States and the Soviet Union.

Washington has turned a number of serious peaceful initiatives advanced lately by the Soviet Union and other Warsaw Treaty member countries. The Republican leadership displays no readiness to explore avenues toward agreements [words indistinct], agreements which might ensure arms limitation and reduction in real terms, especially nuclear arms limitation in keeping with the principle of equal security. The administration's policy on this issue has been at (?variance) to an ever greater extent with the aspirations and demands of the broad masses of the Americans themselves (?entail) its greater isolation.

The results of the past 2 years make it possible to draw exactly (?this) conclusion.

ZORIN: GOVERNMENT RESIGNATIONS 'SIGN OF TROUBLE'

LD192124 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 19 Jan 83

[From "The World Today" Program, presented by Valentin Zorin]

[Excerpts] There is numerous comment being published in the Western press dealing with the obvious confusion and disarray which President Reagan's administration suffered in the first weeks of the New Year.

It should be noted that the present Washington administration was put together only 2 years ago, when Ronald Reagan came to power in the White House. According to U.S. tradition, the newly elected President brings with him to Washington an entourage of like-minded people and aides. Under such circumstances a government reshuffle is not surprising and is seen as a quite normal phenomenon. But when after only a short time there begins a series of mass dismissals from the government, then this is seen, and apparently not without reason, as a sign of trouble.

It is noteworthy that among those dismissed or who resigned there are a number of officials who were working on the theoretic development and implementation of U.S. foreign policies. The American as well as the international press link this circumstance with the clear failures of American diplomacy, and in particular with the confusion which quite clearly began in Washington after the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Treaty countries put forward a whole complex of constructive proposals directed at normalizing the international situation.

MOSCOW TV ON USSR PEACE MOVES, BUSH TOUR

LD171926 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1435 GMT 16 Jan 83

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Stanislav Kondrashov]

[Text] We are not used to compliments from the West. But nowadays, the Western press, and even officials, are being quite generous with words about the initiative displayed in, and the constructiveness of Soviet foreign policy.

They also speak of clever propaganda, directed toward winning over public opinion in the West. Well, that is a backhanded compliment. Propaganda, of course, is quite important in this case, but the Soviet Union is not just interested in a propaganda victory, but in a real movement toward peace, real ways out of the military-political dead ends in Europe, in relations between the USSR and the United States, and in agreements which take account of everyone's interests.

Unlike a war offensive, a peace offensive, of which we are now speaking, should not be repelled, it should be joined. And this means making moves in response. How do things stand in this sense? There are many positive responses in the West, even from officials. But no constructive steps in response have so far been taken. To use military terminology, NATO is now on the defensive; this is generally agreed. Washington, the chief Western capital, is on the defensive. Furthermore, it is now having to defend itself against its own side, from which it is being attacked and criticized.

Let us read, for example, from the pages of London's THE TIMES. The time has come for those who have long displayed their tried and tested devotion both to NATO and to multilateral disarmament to subject publicly to doubt the right of President Reagan and Mrs Thatcher to act as the sole true representatives of NATO. NATO should put forward positive counterproposals, not just reject all Soviet initiatives, as it has become accustomed to doing in the past. This truth has gotten home to a number of West European governments. But has it gotten home to the Reagan administration?

The U.S. President has announced that on 30 January he is sending Vice President Bush on a 12-day trip to West Europe, to the NATO capitals and to Geneva, where Soviet-American talks are taking place. The proclaimed aim of the trip is to consult with the allies on an agreed position in the face of the Moscow peace offensive.

What is this? A useful, businesslike act, or just another gesture to the public? Let us see what is said by THE WASHINGTON POST, which knows a lot about the background to the measures taken by the White House. It considers Bush's mission to be an impossible one. And this is why. I quote: No one knows how the President really views the prospect of talks with the Soviet Union on the subject of concluding an arms control agreement. The President (?acts as if) there are seven Fridays in a week. How about that? And THE WASHINGTON POST continues: Moscow is issuing proposals to limit arms, invitations to a summit meeting, a proposal to conclude a treaty on nonuse of military force between NATO and the Warsaw Treaty countries. The president tucks his head under his wing and tries all sorts of evasions, rejects (?any kind) of talks.

The question which will be put to Bush behind the scenes during his trip to Europe is: Does Reagan sincerely want an end to the arms race? The answer should be, yes and no. Yes and no. This is not just a joke.

Reagan is now facing pressure, including pressure from Congress and from the American public. But he cannot suppress his anti-Soviet instinct. To this should be added (?dissension) within his administration, as a result of which Eugene Rostow, the director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, resigned. The proven hawk Rostow is seen by the present Washington heirarchy of hawks in power as if he were some sort of dove. Nor should it be forgotten that Reagan is also under pressure from the extreme right, the fanatics who remind him who put him in the White House.

TASS REACTS TO NAKASONE WASHINGTON POST REMARKS

LD201450 Moscow TASS in English 2007 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 19 TASS -- TASS news analyst Vasiliy Kharkov writes:

Today's WASHINGTON POST carries an interview with the Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, who is now on an official visit to the U.S. The interview is an indication that Tokyo is being increasingly actively drawn into participating in Washington's strategy of "global confrontation". The military programme of the present Japanese Cabinet, as spelled out in the interview, assigns to Japan a greater military role in the Far East and a larger place in the U.S. aggressive plans and aims at a broader U.S.-Japanese military cooperation. This programme carries a serious threat to the security of the region's countries and to the national interests of the Japanese people.

Yasuhiro Nakasone said that the entire Japanese archipelago must be like an unsinkable aircraft-carrier. And the head of the Japanese Cabinet makes no secret of the intention to spearhead the aircraft-carrier against the Soviet Union.

The idea is not new. General MacArthur developed it back in his time. But is it not clear, however, that, in the present nuclear age, there can be no "unsinkable airfact-carrier", and that by deploying "onboard the carrier" arsenals of armaments, including American, the authors of such plans make Japan a likely target for a response strike. And for such a densely populated, insular country as Japan, this could spell a national disaster more serious than the one that befell it 37 years ago.

Yasuhiro Nakasone's interview also shows the real aim behind the noisy propaganda campaign raised by the Japanese authorities and involving territorial claims to the Soviet Union. They would like to use the campaign to cover up the stepped up military preparations, a further build-up of U.S. and Japanese Armed Forces near the Soviet borders. This forces the Soviet Union, as it has stated repeatedly, to adopt measures to offset the emerging danger.

MOSCOW COMMENTS ON U.S. MILITARY AID TO PAKISTAN

LD182324 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Commentary by Aleksandr (Malikov)]

[Text] Pakistan's Defense Ministry has confirmed reports that the Sargodha airbase has received the first 3 of 40 F-16 fighters due to be supplied to Pakistan by the United States. Another three, part of a consignment which took off last week from Forth Worth, (?the) United States, are expected to arrive shortly.

The Pakistani press welcomes the purchase of the warplanes as the chief gain President Ziaul made during his recent trip to the United States. The military in Islamabad view the arrival of F-16 fighters as a good sign that Washington is true to its promise to supply Pakistan with $3,200 million worth of military and economic aid including tanks, armored personnel carriers, helicopters, various missiles and artillery pieces. The Pakistani press makes much of the fact that Pakistan has got itself quality weapons with F-16's fitted with the most up-to-date electronic equipment. But countries neighboring on Pakistan show concern about its purchase of sophisticated weaponry. They view America's increased military aid to Pakistan as an indication that the United States is gradually drawing Pakistan -- is realizing its ambitions in southwest Asia, the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf. [sentence as heard]

Pakistani's neighbors have been especially alarmed since the United States launched its Central Command on the first of this month, putting it in charge of the vast area from Egypt to Pakistan. The Pentagon is actively exploring Pakistan as its eastern flank. One way of doing this is through the military personnel and instructors it sends to Pakistan to help it master the new weapons. As more and more American servicemen come to Pakistan to advise military, the United States builds up its military presence in that country.

PRAVDA INTERVIEWS DRA FATHERLAND FRONT LEADER

PM201105 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Jan 83 Second Edition p 5

[Special correspondent O. Kitsenko dispatch: "Patriotic Mission: Role of the National Fatherland Front in DRA Life"]

[Text] Kabul, Jan [no date given] -- A Small two-story building stands on (Darul-Aman) Avenue in front of which the DRA state flag flutters on a tall flagpole. It houses the Central Council for the DRA National Fatherland Front [NFF].

The creation of the NFF was an important stage in the development of the April Revolution. Article 3 of the Basic Principles of the DRA -- the country's temporary constitution -- states that the power of the working people in the DRA rests on the broad NFF. It unites workers, peasants, artisans, nomands, the intelligentsia, women, young people, representatives of all nationalities and tribes, all progressive, democratic, patriotic forces and the country's public and political organizations on the common platform of building a new, progressive, free, democratic society under the PDPA's leadership.

The need to unite all these forces, Bareq Shaf'i,first deputy chairman of the NFF and a well-known poet and public figure, said in conversation with us, stemmed from the very structure of Afghan society. It consists of dozens of large tribes and people of many nationalities. This society is heterogeneous in the social respect. For decades imperialism and reaction sowed the seeds of discord among various groups of the population and aroused mutual mistrust and even enmity among them.

The NFF is faced with the task of overcoming the legacy of the past and helping to unite all the people's forces for joint action to implement the tasks of the country's national-democratic development.

Measures are being taken to involve the broad masses in managing the affairs of state and society. Local NFF councils are being set up. They participate in implementing land and water reform and public education reform, in setting up courses to eliminate illiteracy, in organizing cooperatives and in conducting subbotniks and various public campaigns involving different sections of the population.

Traditionally evolved forms such as jirgahs -- tribal meetings -- are also used to strengthen unity, our interlocutor said. They have already been held in many regions of Afghanistan. They voice support for the policy of the PDPA and the revolutionary government and adopt decisions on participating in implementing socioeconomic transformations, combating counterrevolutionary gangs and guarding the state border with Pakistan, from where these gangs are infiltrated into the DRA.

The NFF also devotes great attention to work with patriotically-minded clergy. The DRA Supreme Ulema and Clergy Council is one of the organizations which were collective founding members of the front.

It is natural that in our work, Bareq Shaf'i said, we devote great attention to further developing and strengthening relations with our friends -- the socialist countries and, above all, the Soviet Union. Your country has always been a loyal friend of Aghanistan and helped us to attain independence and develop the economy. Our people are particularly grateful for the fraternal international support which the Soviet Union has given Afghanistan since the April Revolution in the cause of defense against the encroachments of imperialist forces and in economic and cultural building.

Despite the difficulties caused by the undeclared war of imperialism and counterrevolution against the people of Afghanistan, considerable successes have been achieved in the 18 months since the NFF was set up. NFF councils are operating in 24 out of 29 provinces, in 13 cities and 15 districts. In all, there are already 119 local councils. The NFF unites in its ranks half a million people who belong to the 12 public organizations which founded the front, as well as 50,000 individual members.

It is now clear to everyone, Bareq Shaf'i said to conclude the conversation, that the NFF has become a constituent part of the state's public and political structure. It is making its contribution to building the new life.

SRV'S PHAM VAN DONG WRITES ON USSR ANNIVERSARY

PM171531 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Dec 82 Second Edition

[Article by Pham Van Dong, member of the Vietnam Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers: "A Notable Milestone in the History of Mankind"]

[Text] Hanoi [no date as published] -- I.

Together with the Soviet people, the working people of Vietnam, like all progressive mankind, are celebrating the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation.

The USSR's formation was the result of the gains of the Great October Socialist Revolution, which opened a new era in the history of mankind. Not a single country on our planet has experienced such great events and profound upheavals in the course of six decades: External and domestic enemies were vanquished immediately after the revolution, in the years of devastation and cruel need; industrialization and the collectivization of agriculture were accomplished and, by persistent labor, an industrial and defense potential was created making it possible to win victory over Hitlerism -- the most powerful imperialist force of that time; what had been destroyed by war was rapidly restored and a developed socialist society was built; and the building of communism began. The land of the Soviets was the first to enter the era of man's exploration of space.

While the capitalist countries are sinking into the general crisis with unemployment, inflation, economic stagnation and recession, the decline of culture and grave social flaws, the Soviet Union appears to the whole world as a mighty socialist power which has achieved enormous dimensions and results in the economic, cultural, social and scientific and technical fields.

The 270 million Soviet people on a territory comprising one-sixth of the globe are continuing the cause and following the behests of the great V.I. Lenin. For six decades now the multinational Soviet Union has been marching confidently forward along the path toward new horizons of social revolution.

The solution of the nationalities question has been effected in practice in the USSR through voluntary association on the basis of the equal rights and mutual aid of many peoples at different degrees of development. Many of these peoples have taken a giant step forward from the darkness of the Middle Ages. The best national traditions, uniqueness and talents have been unprecedently developed and this has helped the unprecedented economic and scientific and technical progress of each republic. People of a society of the new type, Soviet society, live a healthy spiritual life everywhere in the USSR.

The Soviet Union's supreme achievement is the Soviet person, the Soviet nature forged over 60 years by persistent struggle and tireless labor. The Soviet person is a person with a great soul, bright thoughts and feelings and lofty actions, a person who incorporates in his life the humanitarian ideals of which the great thinkers of the past used to dream.

The 60 years of the Soviet Union's history have been a heroic epic of glorious deeds in peaceful labor and brilliant victories in the Great Patriotic War and at the same time a lyric poem about lofty human feelings, unrivaled friendship, cooperation and mutual aid of the peoples of the USSR both among themselves and with other peoples.

Our thoughts now are directed toward the Soviet Union. I can imagine Moscow and the union republics, the west of the country and its east, the northern regions and southern areas, particularly those places where great events of the Socialist Revolution were played out, where fierce battles took place against the Fascists, where the most important projects of socialist building rose up. In all these places I would like to visit the families of workers and kolkhoz members, scientists and writers or artists and talk with men and women, reminisce about the past with old men and dream of the future with young people, and marvel with them at the remarkable changes which have taken place in their country's political, economic, cultural and social life and the human soul's profound and wonderful transformation.

Overcoming seemingly inhuman difficulties, the Soviet Union has emerged onto a wide road and become a strong power. The heights scaled by the Soviet people will undoubtedly enable them to achieve new successes in the future which it is hard to imagine today.

In accordance with the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress, construction has been launched whose completion will radically alter the complexion of vast regions. Enormous reserves of natural resources will be opened up. The Food Program, uniting into a single organic whole the various sectors of the agroindustrial complex and relying on the latest achievements of modern science and technology and reorganized management, is mobilizing millions of people to struggle to implement very rapidly a very important objective -- ensuring a full and rational diet for every Soviet family.

The Baykal-Amur railroad -- a bold project -- is being implemented successfully. The commissioning of the railroad will make it possible to open up Siberia's boundless potential. The Soviet Union's science and technology are mounting a powerful offensive to the main salients, elaborating and implementing imposing plans for transforming nature, and are opening up space. All this is being accomplished for the happiness of man.

The October Revolution and the formation and growth of the Soviet Union's might were a guarantee of happiness and prosperity for all mankind. The Soviet people, with their creative abilities and revolutionary enthusiasm, were able to create a mighty socialist power which is playing a very important role in international life.

The Soviet Union's existence has promoted the formation of the world socialist system and the socialist community and has been a decisive factor for their growth and consolidation. Every step forward taken by the Soviet Union serves as a bulwark and source of inspiration to the revolutionary forces of our era and strengthens the socialist community, lends impetus to the national liberation movements and inspires the working class and working people of the capitalist countries to further struggle. Having a firm base in the Soviet Union, all progressive forces of our era are serrying their ranks more closely, stepping up the struggle and achieving victories.

Since the end of World War II, over 37 years have elapsed during which peace has been preserved on earth. This has been possible primarily because the Soviet Union -- the indestructible bulwark of peace and the peoples' freedom -- exists on our planet.

The Soviet Union's achievements, like the triumph of the cause of peace and national independence, democracy and socialism are a historical natural law demonstrating the vitality of Marxism-Leninism -- the light, truth and conscience of our era.

All noble impulses invariably lead people of the most diverse political and social convictions to Marxism-Leninism. The main avenues and trends of the development of the natural and social sciences also lead to Marxism-Leninism. Every sane person on earth can clearly see that capitalism has reached a deadlock and has been deprived of a future, that the only correct road is scientific socialism, the road which is being paved by the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries.

The successful implementation of Lenin's nationalities policy in the Soviet Union is a convincing example to other peoples. This example inspires them to the struggle for their liberation, for building a new life an inalienable part of which will be friendship and equal cooperation.

The entire history of the Soviet Union is the history of a country which has always magnanimously helped other peoples. It is for precisely that reason that people throughout the world nurture the warmest, finest feelings for the Soviet Union and Soviet people. The Soviet Union is entering the lives of the peoples of the world as an inalienable part of these lives, as something close and dear to all. Throughout past decades the world's progressive people have shared with the Soviet Union the hardships of struggles, cares and hopes, shared their grief and joy. Giving one's sympathies to the Soviet Union, learning from the Soviet Union, supporting and defending the Soviet Union long ago became a broad movement in various countries.

V.I. Lenin, the Soviet Communists and all Soviet people have frequently noted and assessed highly the support which the international public rendered to the October Revolution and the Soviet Union. The October Revolution, which shook the world, met with ardent responses in various parts of the world. The international movement of support for the Soviet Union and the defense of the Soviet Union made its contribution to the victory of the Socialist Revolution and the building of socialism in one individual country encircled by capitalism. In the most tense years of World War II all mankind turned its hopeful gaze toward Moscow, awaited reports from the Soviet front and followed the course of military operations and rejoiced in every victory for the Soviet Army. The movement to support and defend the Soviet Union raised a whole generation of revolutionaries and created conditions for the victory of revolutions in many countries of Europe and Asia.

The peoples of the world are now warmly greeting the Peace Program put forward by the Soviet Union. It contains an appeal from the people who suffered greater sacrifices than any other people on earth for the sake of peace. The Peace Program has given powerful impetus to the broad masses' struggle against imperialist forces' militarist policy. In the present situation the conservation of peace is a vital necessity, the most important goal of all mankind.

The movement in support of the Soviet Union has always dashed, like a wave, all the slanderous fabrications of the imperialists and reactionaries about the Soviet Union and the Communists. The imperialists' vile lies reflect only their impotent fear in the face of the inexorable defeat and the growth of the might of the Soviet Union and of the immutable sympathies felt for it by the peoples of the world.

The motherland of the October Revolution, the land of V.I. Lenin and the Soviet people will always generate the warmest feelings worthy of the lofty historical mission which the Soviet Union is fulfilling.

III.

The Vietnam Communist Party and the SRV and the Vietnamese people are linked with the CPSU, the Soviet Union and the Soviet people by close ties of comradeship and fraternity based on the commonality of ideals, world outlook and revolutionary goals.

The dissemination of the ideas of scientific socialism in Vietnam was the natural result of the Vietnamese nation's historical development. We remember how one day in the early twenties, one winter's night in Paris, on reading Lenin's "Theses on the Nationalities Question" for the first time Comrade Nguyen Ai Quoc, who was to become the first president of free Vietnam, explained emotionally: "Oh, my suffering fellow countrymen! That is what we need, that is the path toward our liberation!"

The Vietnamese revolution received support and aid from the Soviet Union at every stage. We received this support after the formation of the new Vietnam in August 1945 and over the 30 years of the war for national liberation and then in socialist building and the consolidation of the country's defense capability.

The popular Vietnamese saying states: "When you drink water, remember the source." The bright image of the Soviet Union is preserved unchanged in the hearts of our Communists and all our people. A feeling of love for the Soviet Union has been historically crystallized in our people, is acquiring increasing depth and is becoming a tradition. If a Vietnamese loves his fatherland, if he is devoted to the revolution, then he also nurtures the warmest feelings for the Soviet Union.

On the notable date of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the Soviet Union, I remember the immortable words of Maksim Gorkiy: "Man -- that has a proud ring!" Pride in man and human dignity are manifested with graphic force in Soviet people and the workers of the other fraternal socialist countries.

We believe that the cause of the revolution of the working class, working people and oppressed peoples will end in the victory of socialism on a world scale and that our planet will become the home of people truly worthy of the lofty name of man.

COMMENTARY ON USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS IN SRV

LD171936 Moscow World Service in English 1400 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] The international symposium of scientists in the Vietnamese city Ho Chi Minh continues to discuss effects of the use of toxic agents on human beings and the environment. Over 70 experts from 20 countries of Europe, Asia and America are attending. Our commentary is by Leonid Krichevskiy:

It is not by chance that a forum like this has been convened in the largest city of southern Vietnam. Between 1961 and 1975, the United States Army used Vietnam's southern provinces as a vast ground for testing herbicides and defoliants. In all, more than 100,000 tons of poisons were sprayed over Vietnamese territory. The use of what is called Agent Orange, with a high content of cancer-causing dioxin has proved especially dangerous. Participants in the forum have received a lot of factual material to show what the use of chemical weapons has led to. More than 40 percent of the forests and crop area in the south of Vietnam was affected.

To this day many of the regions look lifeless: dried-up trees, abandoned fields devoid of any vegetation. In general, about 2 million Vietnamese suffered from chemical weapons.

Toxic agents did not only undermine their health but upset the genetic structure. Experts present many cases of premature births, of babies born crippled, and other anomalies. There has been a notable increase in the rate of cancer diseases, blood and liver cancer especially. These are facts, and they cannot be dismissed. The United States is the only country of our time which has used chemical weapons, and done it on a huge scale. They were used as a means of fighting against the national liberation movement.

The tragic lessons of Vietnam gives rise to special alarm today, when the United States steps up preparations for chemical warfare. The Pentagon's arsenals already contain five units of chemical munitions, and these are stored not only in the United States but also on the territory of other countries. Before long, another still more horrible weapon, known as binary weapons, based on nerve gas, is to be added to the existing stocks. Washington has torpedoed Soviet-American talks on banning chemical weapons. And now, it blocks discussions on the issues at the Disarmament Committee in Geneva. It is the United States that opposed a United Nations decision to outlaw chemical weapons. Meanwhile, this is the only way to put up reliable barriers, ruling out the possibility of using chemical weapons anywhere, either in Europe, Asia, Africa or Latin America.

The symposium in Ho Chi Minh is a serious warning about the gravest consequences the use of chemical and bacteriological weapons would have for all people and the environment, for all life on this planet.

TASS REPORTS START OF THAI-U.S. NAVAL EXERCISES

LD191026 Moscow TASS in English 0900 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Bangkok January 19 TASS -- Joint Thai-American naval exercises started in the area of Sattahip naval base on Tuesday. In the course of three days of the exercises code-named "minex-edonex 83/1," naval vessels and aircraft of the U.S. Seventh Fleet together with vessels of the Thai Navy will practice methods of laying mines on and clearing sea lanes of mines. According to press reports, taking part in the exercises are American torpedo carriers and submarine chasers, which specially arrived from the U.S. Clark Field naval base in the Philippines.

USSR EMBASSY IN KUALA LUMPUR FIRED ON

PM201043 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jan 83 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Provocation by Enemies of Soviet-Malaysian Friendship"]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur -- Unknown persons have shot at the residence of the USSR ambassador in Kuala Lumpur. Bullets passed through an office on the second floor of the building. By sheer chance no one was injured.

The Malaysian Foreign Ministry has expressed concern in connection with the incident and stated the need to step up the protection of diplomatic missions.

Malaysia's BERNAMA national news agency later carried a report from the Kuala Lumpur Police Administration which states that, according to police data, four people were involved in shooting up the Soviet Embassy in Malaysia and that it was a "preplanned action."

GROMYKO ARRIVES FOR VISIT IN GDR 19 JAN

LD191548 Moscow TASS in English 1546 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Berlin January 19 TASS -- Andrey Gromyko, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, has arrived here today on an official friendly visit at the invitation of Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany (SED) and chairman of the State Council of the GDR.

He was met at Schoenefeld Airport, bedecked with the state flags of the USSR and the GDR, by Hermann Axen, member of the Politbureau and secretary of the SED Central Committee, Oscar Fischer, minister of foreign affairs of the GDR, and other officials.

GDR'S HONECKER HAILS RESULTS OF PRAGUE SUMMIT

PM171047 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Jan 83 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Commitment to the Detente Policy"]

[Text] Berlin, 10 Jan -- Together with all peace-loving and progressive forces the GDR advocates peace, the curbing of the arms race and the continuation of the policy of dialogue and mutually advantageous cooperation between states. This is the course which accords with the hopes and aspirations of all mankind, said E. Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council.

He noted that the republic confirmed its commitment to this policy at the present Warsaw Pact states Political Consultative Committee conference. The GDR rated highly the USSR's initiatives on arms limitation and disarmament, which were put forward by Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and also the proposal on concluding a treaty on mutual nonuse of military force and maintenance of relations of peace between the Warsaw Pact states and the NATO states. This and the other initiatives proclaimed at the Prague conference are constructive and realistic.

The might of the socialist community states has now increased considerably, the speaker pointed out. This is convincingly evidenced by their achievements in all spheres of political, social and economic life and also by the results of their fruitful cooperation and important joint actions in the international arean. As for the GDR, it intends to further develop relations of friendship and collaboration with the USSR and the other fraternal countries and to struggle tirelessly with them to strengthen world peace and the security of the peoples.

SHCHERBITSKIY RECEIVES POLISH AMBASSADOR

AU190953 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Today, Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary, received Kociolek, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Polish People's Republic to the Soviet Union. In a warm and friendly conversation, Comrade Shcherbitskiy spoke about the work carried out by the republic's party organizations to implement the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the November 1982 CPSU Central committee plenum.

He pointed out that the Communists and working people of the Ukrainian SSR, like those of the entire Soviet Union, have supported the struggle waged by the Communists and working people of the Polish People's Republic against the internal counterrevolution and the external enemies of Socialist Poland, for the consolidation of socialism and for overcoming the crisis.

Kociolek told how the measures outlined by the PZPR Central Committee and the Government of the Polish People's Republic to ensure political and economic stabilization in Poland were being implemented.

Present at the conversation were Merkulov, department chief in the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee; Nowak, counsellor of the Embassy of the Polish People's Republic to the Soviet Union; and Kruk, Polish consul general in Kiev.

USSR DEFENSE MINISTER VISITS SOVIET TROOPS IN CSSR

PM201051 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Jan 83 Second Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "Increasing Vigilance and Combat Readiness: USSR Defense Minister Visits Servicemen of the Central Group of Forces:]

[Text] Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister, who was in the CSSR to take part in the work of the routine session of the Warsaw Pact Defense Ministers Committee, visited the Central Group of Forces.

The USSR defense minister had a talk with members of the Central Group of Forces Military Council. He spoke of the Soviet people's successes in fulfilling the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum. Assessing the present-day world situation, he noted the great international significance of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee conference and the Political Declaration it adopted and spoke of the defense ministers committee session which was held.

The USSR defense minister heard reports on the course of the troops' combat and political training and stressed the need to further improve it.

On 14 January Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov visited the training center of the group of forces, inspected its facilities and the organization of the training process, observed operations by subunits in the course of a tactical exercise and talked with servicemen. He conveyed to the Soviet servicemen wishes for further successes in combat and political training from the CPSU Central Committee, the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, personally.

The USSR defense minister stressed the importance of further strengthening fraternal friendship with the working people and servicemen of Socialist Czechoslovakia and called for it to be safeguarded and tirelessly developed and strengthened. He expressed confidence that the servicemen of the Central Group of Forces will continue to persistently master weapons and combat hardware and increase vigilance and combat readiness.

The USSR defense minister was accompanied by Colonel General G. Borisov, commander of the Central Group of Forces, and Lieutenant General N. Kovalenkov, member of the Military Council and chief of the political directorate of the group.

On the same day USSR Defense Minister, Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov left for home.

PRAVDA REPORTS USSR-SFRY TRADE AGREEMENT SIGNED

PM181229 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Jan 83 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Development of Cooperation"]

[Text] A protocol on trade between the USSR and the SFRY for 1983 was signed in Moscow 14 January as a result of talks between USSR and SFRY Government delegations which took place in a businesslike and comradely atmosphere.

The sides noted with satisfaction that this protocol will serve the further development of mutually advantageous economic cooperation between the two countries. The protocol takes into account the commitments stemming from the long-term trade agreement between the USSR and the SFRY in the period 1981 through 1985 and other trade and economic agreements. Trade turnover between the USSR and the SFRY this year, according to the preliminary estimate, will be in excess of $7 billion.

Under the protocol which has been signed provision is made, as before, for a wide range of reciprocally delivered goods in 1983.

USSR-ALBANIAN SOCIETY MARKS ALBANIAN REPUBLIC DAY

AU121408 Moscow in Albanian to Albania 1530 GMT 11 Jan 83

[Unattributed report on a meeting of the presidency of the Soviet-Albanian Friendship Society held in Moscow on 10 January on the occasion of the 37th anniversary of the proclamation of the People's Republic in Albania]

[Text] Now it has become a tradition to meet in the friendship house on the occasion of special events in Albanian life. All those who share a sincere sympathy for the Albanian people (?meet) here. These are Soviet specialists who worked in Albania during the years of brotherly cooperation between our countries, students, scientists and cultural people.

Today's meeting was opened by Comrade Nina Smirnova, doctor of historical sciences and author of many publications about Albanian history. [brief recorded passage of Smirnova speaking in Russian] Nina Smirnova states that before the proclamation of the republic 37 years ago, the Albanian people fought a long and bitter struggle for their right to self-determination. The day of 11 January 1946 became a special date in the country's history.

Special interest was shown by the meeting's participants in the (?report) by (Mitkevic), an old scientific worker of the Economics of World Socialist Systems Institute to the Soviet Union's Academy of Sciences, and candidate of sciences. Describing events in the country on the eve of the proclamation of Albania as a people's republic, he pointed out: [brief recorded passage in Russian] Comrade (Mitkevic) states that during that period the internal and external reaction made desperate attempts to hinder Albania's development toward progress. Exploiting the serious economic difficulties created by the postwar destruction and the [words indistinct] of 1945, the remnants of the exploiting class threw themselves, with redoubled energy, into a struggle against the people's power. Active support was given to them by the imperialist circles of England and the United States who aimed to discredit the people's regime in the country and to impose upon Albania a political course that suited them.

They refused to recognize the Albanian provisional democratic government and put up various conditions for establishing diplomatic relations with it. [brief recording in Russian] Comrade (Mitkevic) pointed out further that in this complicated political situation for the Albanian patriots, the Soviet Union gave them resolute support.

On 10 November 1945, a short time before the elections of the constitutional assembly which was to conclusively decide the form of state order in Albania, the Soviet Government unconditionally recognized the Albanian provisional democratic government, and established diplomatic relations with it. This act of the Soviet Union's Government greatly raised the prestige of the people's power within the country and created a serious hindrance to the intrigues of the imperialist reaction against Albania.

It is not by chance that this decision was met with great joy by the Albanian people, who saw it as friendly support for their just cause.

Comrade (Salayev), doctor of economic science, devoted his speech to the cooperation between our countries after the establishment of Soviet-Albanian diplomatic relations and the proclamation of a people's republic in Albania. The extensive cooperation between Albania and the Soviet Union, and other socialist countries, helped the Albanian people to heal the war's wounds in a short historical period and to begin its economic development on a (?completely) new basis. Hundreds of Soviet specialists self-sacrificingly worked in various fields of the people's economy and culture in Albania. This comprehensive aid and cooperation greatly influenced the speeding up of the country's socioeconomic development.

Comrade [name indistinct] spoke to the participants in the meeting about his stay in Albania and his meeting with ordinary people. He was the Soviet Union's special envoy to Albania. He pointed out that the Albanian workers had showed their sincerity and spiritual warmth toward the Soviet Union and the Soviet people. [Words indistinct] were tied their best aspirations.

At the meeting of the presidency of the Soviet-Albanian Friendship Society devoted to the 37th anniversary of the proclamation of the People's Republic of Albania, those present emphasized their full support for the principled and consistent line of the CPSU and Soviet state, who have more than once shown their readiness to reestablish normal relations with Albania. The Soviet people's desires are expressed in the words of Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, when he stated that the CPSU and the Soviet State sincerely desire the development and improvement of relations with all socialist countries. Mutual good will, respect for each other's legitimate interests, cooperative concern for the interests of peace and socialism will extend correct ties even to where, for various reasons, there still does not exist a good mutual understanding and trust.

The activists of the Soviet-Albanian Friendship Society who spoke at the meeting congratulated the Albanian workers on the occasion of their national holiday and wished them success in building socialism.

WESTERN EUROPE

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL ON GROMYKO'S FRG VISIT

TASS Reports Press Conference

LD191346 Moscow TASS in English 1339 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Bonn January 19 TASS -- A press conference of Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, foreign minister of the USSR, was held in Bonn on January 18. He made the following statement at the beginning:

This is our official visit to the Federal Republic of Germany. There are many questions for an exchange of views. Even if I did not tell you this, you would guess that this is really so. These are questions of bilateral relations between the USSR and the FRG and issues of an international nature. Although our visit is not over and not all conversations were held, it is possible to say something on the basis of the conversations which already took place.

First what I would like to note is that not only the Soviet Union, but also the Federal Republic of Germany positively assess what has been earlier accomplished in the development of relations between them. Of great importance was the conclusion of a political treaty between the USSR and the FRG, which worked well for the benefit of both countries, and not only them, but also for the benefit of all peoples in Europe and the international situation on the whole.

I have to state with satisfaction that the state leadership of the Federal Republic of Germany, just like the Soviet leadership intends to continue basing its activities on this treaty, that is to develop, deepen and enrich relations between our countries. This refers to politics, the economy, trade, scientific and technological cooperation, cultural links and links in other fields. If the FRG continues to abide by this line, then one can optimistically appraise the future of our relations, since we on our part will continue to pursue the same course -- a course of developing relations with the FRG, of good relations with it.

We would like the Federal Republic of Germany, when building its relations with the Soviet Union, to display its own "self", to be guided by its own interests and not to yield to foreign influences if they do not meet these interests, the interests of maintaining good relations with the USSR.

You should not think that we have any ill intentions, ill in the sense of wishing to see the FRG's relations with some other countries go sour. We do not have such intentions.

Of course, during the conversation held we discussed international problems, including those pertaining to Europe. Moreover, perhaps it is possible to say that the main attention during them was paid precisely to the problems of European security, and this is quite understandable. Both the Federal Republic of Germany and the Soviet Union live in a single home -- Europe -- under the same roof. Both sides cannot but take interest in what the situation is like in Europe or what it may become. Both sides cannot but take interest in the international situation as a whole and in what direction it is developing.

What can be said about the exchange of views on that range of issues? It is possible to note with satisfaction that both sides expressed the opinion that peace and security answer the interests of the peoples of the FRG and the Soviet Union, of other countries of Europe and not only Europe, too. We are impressed by the ideas put forward by our interlocutors in favor of peace, in favor of detente.

Maybe, I shall to some extent divulge a secret, but I hope that there will be no rebuke on the part of Chancellor Kohl.

At the end of the conversation I directly asked him whether I could, upon my return to Moscow, tell the Soviet leadership as a whole and General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Yuriy Andropov personally that the leadership of the Federal Republic of Germany favours detente, the course which positively manifested itself during a whole number of years in the relations between our two countries, and that this course will remain in force. The chancellor answered in the affirmative to that question.

Among the problems, on which the exchange of opinions was held, there were, certainly, problems of medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe and strategic armaments. These are very complicated problems. If you were to be examined for the knowledge of details of these problems, I am not sure that all of you would get the top mark in accordance with the five-point scale. But this by no means signifies that it is impossible to understand policy on these problems.

I would like to dwell first of all on the question of medium-range arms in Europe. There are some points of contiguity between the positions of our countries, but there are also differences. And it would be an exaggeration to say that the existing differences and divergences have been overcome as a result of the conversations. Therefore, there remains, naturally, the need of continuing the dialogue, consultations and talks.

Roughly the same could have been said in reply if I were asked about the state of affairs and about what can be said about the exchange of views on the question of the limitation and reduction of strategic arms. Here too between the positions of the sides there are points of contiguity but there are also differences. On this matter, too, there exists the need to continue the dialogue, consultations and talks.

Both sides are prepared for continuing the exchange of views, for talks and dialogue. This was stated both from the West German and from our side. For this reason both as regards the first and the second problem no final conclusions should be drawn either approaching pessimistic appraisals or, on the contrary, approaching opposite appraisals. Experience shows that these problems are not solved simply although it would be good if they could be solved quickly and effectively.

Sometimes one hears such a question -- it is being raised in the press of a number of countries -- who, what party in the FRG stands to gain more from the visit by the Soviet minister to the Federal Republic of Germany. Various conjectures, to be more correct guesses, are being expressed in the process.

I want to stress in this connection that we have arrived here not to defend the policy of any one party or criticise the policy of another one. We have come to elucidate our policy and support that policy of the FRG, real or potential, and those elements of the policy which correspond to the interests of peace, detente and disarmament. Political parties in the Federal Republic of Germany shape on their own their line on appropriate issues. This is a matter of their responsibility.

Andrey Gromyko then answered questions put by journalists.

Correspondent of the newspaper PRAVDA: Did your talks here, in Bonn, tackle the question of concluding a treaty between the member-states of the Warsaw Treaty Organization and NATO on mutual non-use of military force and maintenance of relations of peace?

Answer: Yes, opinions were exchanged also on this question. The FRG Government declared that this proposal formulated in the political declaration of the Warsaw Treaty member-states in Prague is being studied carefully and seriously. This is as it should be. We had expressed the wish that an objective attitude be shown to this proposal and that it be studied exactly seriously.

I would like to inform those present about one argument which was advanced on our part in favour of this proposal. Previously Western leaders in a number of capitals, which I would not list but you perhaps may guess yourselves what capitals are meant in the first place, declared this: Well, the Soviet Union has unilaterally assumed the obligation not to be the first to use nuclear weapons and this, generally speaking, is a positive fact. But war, they said, can be launched by means of not only nuclear but also conventional weapons. Nobody, however, has assumed any obligation on this score on a reciprocal basis. So may we be satisfied with what has been declared by the Soviet Union?

Taking this into account, the Soviet Union and its Warsaw Treaty allies have come to the conclusion: Why not suggest to the grouping of the North Atlantic alliance to sign a treaty on the non-use of both nuclear and conventional weapons, so as to prevent war between states, so as to ensure the solution of all disputes through negotiations, through peaceful means. There is logic in this proposal, isn't there? Every objective-minded person, who tries to objectively assess the situation in the world, cannot but recognize that logic.

Our proposal is now on the table of the government of every NATO member state. We call upon them, including the FRG Government, to consider this proposal most seriously, without any bias, and make appropriate conclusions. They may say that negotiations, exchanges of opinions will be required to discuss the proposal. Well, the USSR and its allies are ready for such negotiations as well.

Question by a correspondent of the West German news agency DPA: It is the Soviet [Union] and the United States which started and continue the talks in Geneva on medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe. Now the Soviet Union, by making a new proposal on the matter, practically draws two more states, Britain and France, into the talks. Can you say what for do the Soviet Union and its allies include those two countries into the group of the participants in the discussion of the mentioned issue?

Answer: Why do we count British and French nuclear weapons?

Firstly, it is because in the official policy of both Britain and France their military mechanism, their armed forces have always been regarded as part of the NATO bloc. Have you heard a statement which would conflict that? I think it's unlikely.

Secondly, it is clear to every sober-minded person that the British and French missiles cannot be not taken into account since they are situated in Europe. By their parametres, these are medium-range weapons. We are asked sometimes: But are these really medium-range weapons? They are based on submarines and, therefore, are, in effect, strategic weapons. Well, if you like, these are simultaneously strategic weapons as well. But no matter how you call them, they are deployed in Europe.

These weapons reach the territory of the Soviet Union, its main vital centres -- both the most populated and the most developed in the economic respect. Even more so, they reach the territory of our allies. What are the grounds then to ignore these weapons? We would make a strange picture for any person, more or less versed in these affairs, if we simply turned a blind eye and did not pay attention to the British and French nuclear weapons, reasoning like this: Let them exist, but we shall not take them into account.

I shall emphasize yet another aspect which is not clear to all. We do not at all propose that the nuclear arsenals of Britain and France be reduced. No, those weapons should just be taken into account at the negotiations in determining the appropriate balance of such armaments. Isn't there logic in what we propose? Is this not a fair viewpoint? An undoubtedly fair one. You know that also in NATO member countries many authoritative people believe that this is a correct viewpoint. This is my answer.

Question by Soviet radio and television correspondent: The impression is that some people still have illusions that the Soviet Union might, in the long run, agree to the American "zero option". What can you say in this connection?

Answer: No, this is out of the question. The Soviet Union can by no means accept the so-called "zero option." Why so? Because this would mean the drastic breakdown of that parity in armaments which has evolved over many years, one may even say decades. That process has been very complex. It has been governed by life itself.

Today there is rough parity in armaments. The implementation of the American "zero option" would bring about "zero" only for the Soviet Union. That is why Washington is so pleased with this option. As for the United States, it would get an even larger advantage as compared with the present-day situation. It was no chance remark on my part — as compared with the present-day situation. [sentence as received]

We say that there is rough parity today, but accuracy calls for one clarification. If we take nuclear warheads -- and they actually are nuclear weapons because delivery vehicles, metal structures, by themselves do not kill people or cause destruction -- at present NATO has 50 percent more nuclear warheads than the Soviet Union has.

In short, if there is one who is justified in raising this question, it is the Soviet Union that should do this. But we are prepared not to do this in the name of making it easier to come to terms. I repeat, the implementation of the American plan would tip the alignment of forces even further in U.S. favour.

To arm you with concrete data, I would cite the following fact: If the American "zero option" had been realised, NATO would have twice more delivery vehicles and thrice more nuclear warheads than we. Think over these figures. This is what the "zero option" means. No, it is not by serious considerations that those, who drew it up and put it on the negotiating table, were guided. One cannot describe as being serious a partner who has made such a proposal.

Question asked by a correspondent of West German television: Mr. Minister, during your talks and in your statements in Bonn you passed over in silence the issue whether a part of the SS-20 missiles to be reduced will be scrapped.

Answer: We have stated, and repeated more than once, that we can reduce the number of missiles in Europe. We specified during the talks that some of the missiles can be scrapped and some -- redeployed to those regions from where they won't reach the territory of Central European countries.

Let me simultaneously answer those who would like us not only to remove all our missiles from the European part of the USSR but also to scrap them it is appropriate to ask -- and what must be our attitude to those numerous systems which are being deployed without any restrictions whatsoever on the territories of some Asian countries and in the waters washing the Asian Continent. What is to be done with them? There are lots of weapons which are not embraced by the operating agreements and which the agreement on Europe, if signed, will not embrace.

The question is whether the Soviet Union should take this into account or not. Undoubtedly it should. The USSR does not want to put itself into a position of advantage, but the principle of equality and undiminished security is the sanctum which it cannot abandon. We believe that other states as well should not depart from that principle.

Question by a correspondent of the Polish newspaper ZYCIE WARSZAWY: How are things shaping in the question of the limitation and reduction of strategic armaments? And what is the USSR's approach to this question?

Answer: It should be borne in mind that the SALT-2 treaty was not ratified by the United States of America. Consequently, the sides have no strict obligations to act in accordance with that treaty, though there was an exchange of verbal statements that the sides will abide in general by its provisions. In practice, however, the American side makes no secret of the fact that it will abide by the treaty until its obligations under it come at variance with the relevant practical steps of the U.S. Government in building up strategic armaments, that is at variance with the real policy, the real state of armaments of the United States.

The U.S. Administration has not been content with shelving the SALT-2 accord. It has gone further than that and made the proposal that the Soviet Union should dismantle its missiles, which were termed "heavy" during the talks with the United States. Just like that, dismantle, because they are not to the liking of the U.S. Administration. As for such a component of the possible agreement on strategic arms as the strategic Air Force, it would remain an open question. It is even being put by the United States outside the framework of the talks and postponed indefinitely.

In this way there is envisioned a drastic change in the balance of strategic armaments in favour of the United States. This position has been formulated, one may say, with "soldier-like" bluntless, with the sharpness of the soldier's tread. It is totally unobjective, unjust, and absolutely unacceptable to the Soviet Union. It is aimed at achieving unilateral advantage and securing superiority over the Soviet Union. Undoubtedly, this proposal of the American Administration does not at all pursue the aim of facilitating agreement on strategic arms. It is obviously intended to rule out the possibility of such an agreement.

We regret this. Agreement not only on the medium-range weapons in Europe but also on the strategic armaments would mean a big step towards improving the international situation and lessening the threat of nuclear war, a task which is more important than anything to mankind at present. Such is the position held by the U.S. Administration. I repeat, we regret that it has taken this position. We would like more flexibility, more objectivity on the part of the U.S.A. The matter is that the attainment of these accords would meet the interests of not only the Soviet Union but also of the United States. Moreover, it would meet the interests of all other countries, including the countries of Europe.

To make it easier for you to understand the essence of the American proposal which raises the question of scrapping the Soviet missiles which in the West are called the SS-18's, let me tell you that the question of these missiles was a subject of the Soviet-American talks in Vladivostok at the time when the President of the U.S.A. was Gerald Ford. Then it was agreed upon that the Soviet Union has reasons and the right to retain such missiles, at in the quantity [as received] which it then had and which was known to the U.S. Government, for as long as the question of the American forward-based systems, including those in Europe, remains unresolved.

And only after the sides have approached the talks on the next strategic arms treaty can this question be discussed, or to be more precise, both questions in context: the question of our heavy missiles and the question of U.S. forward-based systems. And since, as is commonly known, there exists no agreement on U.S. bases and U.S. weapons in Europe, the U.S. proposal aimed against that type of our missiles is a case of patent arbitrariness.

Washington, you see, does not like those missiles and it suggested that the Soviet Union scrap them. But we could do the same. Say, we don't like the U.S. Trident-1 and Trident-2 missiles, so let the U.S. scrap them.

But this would mean chaos, and no orderly agreement between states could be possible. It is quite understandable that the U.S. proposal cannot serve as the foundation of a strategic arms agreement.

Question by a correspondent of the Polish newspaper ZYCIE WARSZAWY: In the West, including in the FRG, they seek to "internationalize" the situation in Poland, and seek to interfere in internal Polish affairs. What can you say in this connection?

Answer: I'll say in brief about our principled assessment of the Western stand towards the Polish People's Republic. Poland should be left alone. Nobody has the right to interfere in its internal affairs. The Poles themselves are entitled to resolve their internal problems. And they are resolving them. Nobody: Neither the West, nor the East, neither the north nor the south has the right to interfere in these affairs. The Polish affairs are the internal matter of the Poles. The earlier this is understood in the West the better.

Questions by a correspondent of the British newspaper GUARDIAN: Could you say what is the state of affairs at the Soviet-American negotiations in Geneva? What are, in your view, the prospects of organizing a Soviet-American summit meeting? Is it true that in the summer of last year the leaders of the delegations of the USSR and the United States to the negotiations on nuclear weapons in Europe unofficially agreed on some compromise decision?

Answer: This is an original question -- a MIRVED one. [as received] I have already dwelt on strategic arms. I can only add, perhaps, that the optimism seeped out by Washington over these talks is as little justified as it is with regard to the talks on medium-range nuclear systems in Europe. There has so far been no progress at the Geneva talks.

As for the possibility of a Soviet-American summit, we have already made relevant statements on this score. Such statements were made in his time by Leonid Brezhnev. Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has also touched upon this question in his speeches and also in conversations with certain statesmen. We have spoken on the whole in favour of the possibility of such a meeting. It is said that this meeting calls for preparatory work. We also think so but, if there is need for preparations, it is necessary to get down to them. Somehow, we do not see in the statements of the American Administration any real desire to have such a meeting.

Anyway, the U.S. Administration should know that the USSR does not hold out a begging hand in this matter either. We proceed from the assumption that under certain circumstances such a meeting would be mutually useful both for the Soviet Union and for the United States, for Europe and for the whole world.

Lastly, as regards the rumours that the representatives of the Soviet Union and the United States at the talks on medium-range weapons in Europe have achieved some agreement, these rumours are absolutely at variance with reality. It is known that official talks are being conducted. There also have been unofficial meetings, which are useful, of course. But actually no progress has been made at the talks. The point in case here is not that the participants in the talks from either side personally conduct the talks not in the way in which they should be conducted, they have their briefs. Everything here hinges on the position of Washington, on the line of those who are formulating U.S. foreign policy.

I would like to stress in conclusion that the Soviet Union's foreign policy is a policy of peace, detente and friendship with all nations, a policy of developing good relations with the countries of Europe, Africa, Asia and Latin America. And, of course, we stand for good relations with the United States.

This course of ours has been defined by the congresses of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the decisions of its Central Committee and the relevant statements of Soviet statesmen, first and foremost Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. These statements have been made public. They are well known. This is the Soviet Union's course in international affairs, and it will carry on this course in future as well.

Thank you.

Gromyko's Dinner Speech Comparison

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 18 January, Second Edition, carries on page 4 a TASS report on the speech USSR Minister of Foreign Affairs Andrey Gromyko gave in Bonn. The item has been compared with the Moscow TASS English item published in the 18 January Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, pages G 3 through G 6, and was found to be identical except for the following variations:

PRAVDA begins:

First, I would like to express my appreciation to the Federal Government for the invitation to visit the Federal Republic...(picking up paragraph 3, line 1; supplying additional passage)

Page G 4, paragraph 4, line 3 the PRAVDA version reads:

...in the FRG, not to mention the purely commerical pluses -- and you know about that, probably, better than...(picking up line 4 of the same paragraph; supplying additional passage)

Page G 5, paragraph 8, line 4, PRAVDA reads:

...balance at a low level and thoroughly...(picking up line 5; subbing "low" for "lower")

Page G 6, last paragraph, line 2 PRAVDA reads:

...a possibility to turn the developments in...(subbing "turn" for "reverse")

Gromyko-Carstens Talk Comparison

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 18 January, Second Edition, carries on page 4 a TASS report on USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko's meeting with FRG President Karl Carstens. Comparison with the Moscow TASS English item published in the 18 January Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page G 3, reveals the reports to be identical except for the following change:

Paragraph 2, line 4 the PRAVDA version reads:

...on strategic arms limitation and reduction. It was stressed...(picking up line 5; supplying "limitation and reduction")

PRAVDA ASSESSMENT OF FRG 'POLITICAL CRISIS'

PM171635 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Jan 83 Second Edition p 4

[V. Korionov report: "The FRG: A Time of Thought"]

[Excerpt] Bonn, Moscow [no date as received] -- It can often be heard in the FRG that the country is experiencing the gravest crisis in its entire history. Properly speaking, it is a whole group of interwoven crises. One is the economic crisis, which affects other capitalist countries too.

The period of economic growth is over. The number of unemployed has topped 2 million and continues to grow. Production is only working to 77 percent of capacity. Even worse times are ahead. An "austerity" program has already been announced in which appropriations for social needs are cut by approximately DM15 billion.

In the conditions of the exacerbation of social problems, the question of a change in the arsenal of political methods has been presented to the ruling class. The year 1982 was a year of profound political crisis: The Social Democratic government was removed from power. Their partners in the government coalition -- the Free Democrats -- defected to the conservative "Christian" grouping, which had been in opposition for 13 years.

In certain bourgeois circles the transfer of political power to the Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union [CDU/CSU] was linked to calculations that the bloc's leaders will more openly defend the interests of capital and will support the Washington administration's aggressive course most zealously. Now the CDU/CSU, which presents itself as an "alternative" and promises the country a "new beginning" is trying to make out that the Social Democrats are chiefly to blame for the economic crisis. It is difficult for the ordinary voter to comprehend all these stratagems. It is no accident that nobody will go as far as to predict definitely how the voter will vote at the elections planned for 6 March.

All the same, shifts are taking place in people's consciousness. Despite the anti-Sovietists' efforts, it is hard to stifle the truth about the real state of affairs in Europe and the world. The lessons of the seventies have not passed away without trace. The paramount lesson is that the FRG tasted many tangible fruits of detente. Millions of FRG citizens see and regard with satisfaction the real fact that following a course of detente enabled their country to increase its weight in European and world politics. The antiwar movement has become a factor which none of the country's political parties can leave out of its calculations.

This is not only because detente gave the FRG the opportunity to achieve a previously unheard-of level of trade turnover with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, which is of considerable importance in the conditions of the present economic situation in the West. By shaking off the burden of confrontation with the socialist countries the FRG gained the opportunity to directly defend its own interests both at a regional level (participation in various European conferences and talks) and globally (the United Nations). The country obtained greater freedom to maneuver in the international arena.

That does not suit Washington. American imperialism would like to be able to continue to keep the FRG in a state of dependence, using that country's military and economic might to implement its own selfish designs, which do not by any means coincide with the FRG's vital interests.

In this connection people across the ocean pin particular hopes in the coming to power of a government headed by the CDU/CSU in Bonn.

On the completion of the new FRG chancellor's trip to Washington, U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger declared in an interview for the newspaper FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE that as a result of the trip there had been a "decisive change in the atmosphere in relations between Washington and Bonn, and President Reagan and his advisers are extremely pleased with this fact." And THE WASHINGTON POST wrote: "Reagan warmly welcomed Kohl to the United States as a 'fellow conservative' whose election in March is regarded by the White House as decisive for the creation of a more compatible coalition of its European partners. The Reagan government regards the prospect of a Kohl victory in the March elections as an opportunity to strengthen the conservative axis linking Bonn, London and Washington.

In a talk [I had] at the editorial office of the Hamburg newspaper DIE ZEIT the journalists noted: "We are not independent in the implementation of our military, foreign or economic policy." But by no means everyone in the FRG expresses the readiness to obediently follow in America's wake. By no means everyone in West Germany intends to become reconciled to the role which Washington would like to assign to that country.

There is a growing understanding that one reason to impose the American Pershings and Tomahawks on the FRG is the desire to make that country still more dependent on the United States. Of ocurse, the main thing is that the deployment of the new American nuclear missile weapons on the territory of the FRG and certain other West European countries will not only fail to bring those countries security but will, on the contrary, put them in mortal danger. The prominent West German scientist and public figure K. Von Weizsaecker notes: "We do not have enought chance of surviving a war; the only solution is to prevent it." Here, he observes, is the most fundamental "collision of interests" between the FRG and the United States.
DPA employees with whom I talked said bitterly: Washington decides cardinal issues without asking us; it simply intends to place our country in nuclear jeopardy. The latest confirmation of this is Washington's adoption of the decision to transfer the command staff of its Armed Forces from the West German city of Stuttgart to British territory. This time too Bonn was not consulted. The Germans regard this decision as new evidence of Washington's course of preparing for a nuclear war "limited" to Europe. The United States, the newspapers wrote, intends to sacrifice FRG territory.

Naturally, increasingly broad strata of the FRG population are pondering their country's future. Hence the tremendous interest in the Soviet peace initiatives put forward in speeches by Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, which opens up favorable new prospects for resolving the burning problems of Euroepan security.

Johannes Rau, prime minister of the Land of North Rhine-Westphalia and a deputy chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany [SPD], wrote in the ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG: "Yu.V. Andropov has made a new proposal in which the desire for disarmament can at least be sensed. The West should now make a move." And he goes on: "I give an insistent warning against rejecting or disregarding the Soviet proposal.... Any peace dialogue is threatened if one side's readiness is regarded only as weakness. All our experience indicates that the Russians are well able to keep up with us militarily."

The SPD now formulates the question of its attitude toward NATO's "dual decision" more clearly: There must be no automatic implementation of the NATO "dual decision." Hence the fact that ordinary Social Democrats are increasingly resolutely coming out in support of peace and international cooperation [which] is undoubtedly having an effect. France's LE MONDE wrote recently: The Social Democrats, who secured a convincing victory at the Hamburg elections, intend to present themselves in the role of the real defenders of West German interests, compared with the Christian Democrats, who have yielded to pressure from the American hawks.

Of course, the fact that millions of FRG citizens are caught in the snares of anti-Soviet, anticommunist propaganda is still a factor making itself felt in the country's political life. Many people still believe the fabrications about the "Soviet military threat." But since the Soviet Union's consistent peace policy is gradually destroying this malicious myth, the heralds of NATO's course are now resorting increasingly frequently to a new "argument," stating that the "Soviet threat" may appear not in the military sphere but in...political pressure from the USSR on Western countries. But even these contrivances do not help much. Millions of FRG citizens are coming out increasingly resolutely for detente, disarmament and good-neighborly cooperation with the USSR and the other socialist countries.

The year 1982 was marked by an unprecedented upsurge in the antimissile, antiwar movement in the FRG.

This worries government circles since it threatens their commitments to Washington. Some of their representatives have asserted quite seriously in conversations that this movement is allegedly inspired by... foreign agents. Such fabrications will not, of course, stop the growth of the people's struggle to preserve detente.

Everything indicates that in the year which has just begun Washington will employ every means at its disposal to make the FRG and certain other NATO countries deploy the new American nuclear weapons, launch sites for which are already under construction. But this means that the struggle of the FRG people's masses against the danger of war and in defense of their rights will flare up with redoubled energy in the New Year. "Employment, not missiles!" -- that is the cry of the German Communist Party to the working people.

The confrontation between the forces of peace and the forces of war in the FRG is becoming more acute. The outcome of this struggle will be of great significance for the fate of peace in Europe.

FRANCE'S MITTERRAND ARRIVES IN BONN 20 JAN

LD201038 Moscow TASS in English 0915 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Bonn January 20 TASS -- President of France Francois Mitterrand came to Bonn today. He is to attend the events devoted to the 20th anniversary of the signing of the treaty on France-FRG cooperation, meet President of the FRG Karl Carstens and Chancellor Helmut Kohl. Francois Mitterrand is to deliver a speech at the FRG Bundestag today.

LE MONDE CITES USSR'S MARCHUK ON TRADE ISSUES

PM181047 Paris LE MONDE in French 15 Jan 83 p 3

[Interview with Guriy Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, by "M.T." in Paris on 14 January]

[Text] [Question] What results do you think this session of the "grand commission" [17th session of the Franco-Soviet grand commission] will have for the development of Franco-Soviet trade and the solution of outstanding problems, such as the trade imbalance which has been created to France's detriment?

[Answer] During this session we have detailed discussions on all questions relating to the state of and prospects for our economic and commercial cooperation.

We noted that economic and commercial relations between our two countries were continuing to develop. Trade between the Soviet Union and France during the 1980-1982 period amounted to more than R11.5 billion (FR85 billion according to the French statistics) according to initial estimates. That figure is markedly higher than Soviet-French trade for the 5 previous years: R9 billion (or FR57 billion according to French statistics).

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our French friends, especially Foreign Trade Minister Jobert, for the excellent organization of the session and for the constructive atmosphere which reigned at it.

You raise the question of the Soviet-French trade imbalance. There has indeed been such an imbalance in the past few years. Nonetheless, as was noted during the commission's session, the two sides have already taken specific measures aimed at developing our trade and ensuring a better balance in it. In this respect the visits to the Soviet Union by the French [Agriculture, and Research and Industry] Ministers Mrs Gresson and Mr Chevenement were very important.

That led to the signing of an agreement in October 1982 for France to supply the USSR with agricultural and food products and on the development of agroindustrial cooperation. We have already bought grain and other food products from France within the framework of that agreement.

I could also cite you may other agreements reached between Soviet organizations and French firms in the 1981-1982 period. I am thinking in particular of contracts on the supply by France of equipment, machines, means of transport, and in a general way, complete factory installations. Their total value is very substantial: R32 billion, delivery being spread out until 1985. The quanitative aspect of the transactions is, of course, important, but the qualitative execution of the contracts concluded by the French firms is equally important.

If France is to be able to successfully develop its exports of machines, equipment and other goods to the USSR, in other words if the trade imbalance is to be reduced, efforts are necessary on both sides, as is the maintenance of favorable conditions for trade, including the financial conditions for these supplies.

The session made it possible not only to discuss prospects for economic and commercial cooperation between the USSR and France but also to sign an important document: the measures for 1983-1985 relating to the implementation of existing long-term programs and to the extension of economic cooperation between our two countries. This document also includes important current problems in cooperation, such as prospecting for and producing oil and gas on the shelf of the Barents Sea, the exploitation of the Udokan copper deposit, oil refining, the automation of railroad transport, and the agroindustrial complex. As you can see, the range is very wide.

There is another promising sector: the retooling and reconstruction of enterprises. In our view there are very broad possibilities for cooperation in this sphere, on the basis of a well-constructed system of interaction between industrial and economic cooperation and scientific and technical cooperation.

In short, the sphere of activity of our relations is very vast and we are looking to the future with optimism. It opens up great prospects for us to extend on a more balanced basis the useful economic, commercial, scientific and technical ties, which correspond to the two countries' national interests. In that connection it seems to me that Mr Jobert and I have the same understanding of things.

[Question] Do you plan to repeat the experiment of the contract for the Astrakhan desulfurization factory, paid for in cash, which would make it possible to overcome the obstacle of long-term guaranteed credit and interest rates on it?

[Answer] As is known, deliveries of heavy equipment are usually made in conditions in which corresponding credit is obtained. That is one of the conditions of the competitive capacity of the suppliers' tendered.

Nonetheless, if it is justified by the parties' mutual interest, by a specific project, and if difficulties arise in financing it by the customary means, we do not rule out the use of the forms of payment to which you refer.

VORONTSOV APPOINTED SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE

LD191856 Moscow TASS in English 1816 GMT Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 19 TASS -- Yuliy Vorontsov has been appointed the ambassador of the USSR to the French Republic.

He was born in 1929 and started his diplomatic career in 1952.

After holding a number of senior posts in the apparatus of the USSR Foreign Ministry and abroad, in 1977-82 he served as the USSR ambassador to the Republic of India.

The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has relieved Stepan Chervonenko of the duties of the USSR ambassador to the French Republic in connection with his transfer to another job.

BRITISH REACTION TO SOVIET INITIATIVES VIEWED

LD142156 Moscow TASS in English 2103 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 14 TASS -- Will Britain become a launch pad for U.S. nuclear weapons which the Pentagon plans to deploy in West European countries or will the slide to the brink of disaster be arrested and Europe will return to the path of detente? This is, essentially, the choice faced by Britain and its West European partners, IZVESTIYA writes, commenting on the reaction of the British Government to the new peace initiatives of the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union, the newspaper recalls, specifically suggested to agree on such a reduction of armaments under which the Soviet Union will not have a single missile or a single plane more than NATO. There would be no Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles opposing each other in the European zone and the USSR would retain in Europe only as many missiles as are kept there by Britain and France.

Touching upon the assertions of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher that the suggested reduction of the nuclear potential of both groupings is unacceptable since under this variant the United States would have no medium-range missiles in Europe, which would, allegedly, disrupt the military balance, IZVESTIYA writes: "The conservative leader pretends that U.S. medium-range nuclear means are the only counterbalance to Soviet medium range nuclear means."

"And are there no British and French missiles targeted on the Soviet territory," IZVESTIYA asks. "Or, may be, it is held on the banks of the Thames that British nuclear 'means of deterrence' are so insignificant that there is no sense of taking them into consideration in the overall balance of forces?"

Britain now has four submarines, each of which has 16 Polaris missiles with a range of 4,600 kilometres, IZVESTIYA writes further. Each missile in turn contains three warheads with a total yield which is approximately 16 times more than the destructive force of the bomb that was dropped on Hiroshima. This weapon is being constantly perfected. The military department already spent over a billion sterling for the creation of the new types of warheads for the Polaris missiles. And in the 90s it is planned to replace the Polaris system with a much more powerful Trident system. In addition to submarine missile carriers, the British Army is equipped also with bombers capable of the delivery of atomic weapons. It is quite apparent, the newspaper stresses in conclusion, that the Soviet Union cannot ignore either British or French nuclear forces.

SOVIET DELEGATION ARRIVES IN BEIRUT 19 JAN

NC191821 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] A Soviet solidarity, peace and friendship delegation led by Mr Asimov, member of the Supreme Soviet [as heard] and president of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan, arrived in Beirut this afternoon from Moscow on a 1-week visit to Lebanon during which it will meet with senior officials.

The delegation was received at the airport by the Soviet charge d'affaires and some Soviet Embassy officials and representatives of the Lebanese-Soviet solidarity committee.

At Beirut airport the head of the delegation said that the Soviet position supports Lebanon's unity, sovereignty and independence. He said that his country's position on the Middle East crisis is clear and known. It supports a comprehensive and just solution to the Middle East problem.

Further Details

NC191556 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Member of the Supreme Soviet [as heard] Asimov arrived in Beirut at 1640 from Moscow on a 1-week visit during which he will meet with a number of senior officials.

Asimov made a statement in which he said that the visit aims at expressing Soviet support for the Lebanese people and solidarity between the Lebanese and the Soviet peoples. He added: The Soviet Union which supports Lebanon's integrity, sovereignty and indepedence, hopes that the Lebanese people will be able to put a final end to the Israeli occupation of their territory.

In reply to a question about the U.S. role in light of envoy Philip Habib's contacts, he said: No separate agreement can establish peace in the Middle East. This became evident with Camp David -- this agreement which led [words indistinct].

TASS OFFICE IN TEHRAN REPORTEDLY CLOSES

LD191645 Tunis TAP in English 1437 GMT 19 Jan 83

["Pool" item]

[Text] Tehran, Jan 19 (TAP) -- The TASS agency office in Tehran has been closed following the Iranian authorities's decision not to renew the visa of the Soviet correspondent, reported Wednesday a sure source in the Iranian capital.

This decision of the Ministry of the Islamic Orientation was taken following the broadcast by this agency of an aricle from Tehran questioning thus the Iranian authorities for the incidents which occured December 27 in front of Tehran's Soviet Embassy.

Afghan refugees had tried to penetrate into the embassy and had destroyed a Soviet flag which they had seized.

"This anti Soviet action took place with the Iranian authorities' evident complaisance, had notably written the TASS agency. [as received]

AFP Report

NC191700 Paris AFP in English 1644 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Tehran, Jan 19 (AFP) -- Soviet news agency TASS's Tehran bureau has closed following the Iranian Government's refusal to renew the visa of its correspondent, sources here reported today.

The Iranian decision followed a TASS story, datelined from Tehran, accusing Iranian authorities of connivance in incidents last December 27 when Afghan refugees on the third anniversary of the Soviet invasion of their country burned a Soviet flag outside the Soviet Embassy here.

U.S. SPOKESMAN REMARKS ON SYRIA CRITICIZED

LD191248 Moscow TASS in English 1221 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Washington January 19 TASS -- The official spokesmen of the U.S. Department of State R. John Hughes expressed "concern" at the measures taken by Syria to strengthen the country's anti-aircraft defences and stated that this step purportedly does not lead to the establishment of peace in the region.

This sham concern of the State Department spokesman is in no way connected with a search for ways of establishing a lasting and just peace in the Middle East, an aim that, as is known, is resisted in every way by the present American Administration. In reality they are displaying care for the impunity of the Israeli aggressors.

Relying on Israel as a weapon of aggression, resorting to pressure, blackmail and rude interference in the affairs of soveriegn states, Washington is making ever more vigorous efforts with the aim of imposing the American-Israeli diktat on the Arab east. It appears that to achieve this strategic aim the United States would like to see the Arab neighbours of the Israeli expansionists totally defenceless, deprived of any possibility to resist the brazen aggressor armed with the latest weapons, including with modern combat planes.

It seems that the militaristic circles of the United States would want a repetition of the events similar to those, for instance, that happened with the Jordanian Army in 1967. The Jordanian soldiers who were courageously fighting off the onslaught of Israeli troops were destroyed with impunity from the air only because the West had actually deprived Jordan of modern means of anti-aircraft defence.

These circles, it appears, would not mind a repetition of the Lebanese tragedy when Israeli aircraft, that had air supremacy, dealt barbarous blows at densely populated areas of Lebanese towns. Suffice it to recall that more than 300 peaceful residents were killed and 800 injured as a result of the bandit raid on Beirut's Al-Fakihani area in July 1981 alone.

And, very definitely, neither Washington nor Tel Aviv, its strategic ally, would want a repetition of 1973 when dozens of Israeli planes were downed in the sky of Syria. That is exactly why, in violation of the United Nations Charter, the United States Administration is denying Syria, a sovereign Arab state, the inalienable right to self defence.

IZVESTIYA Accusation

NC191907 Paris AFP in English 1855 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Escerpt] Moscow, Jan 19 (AFP) -- The Soviet Government daily IZVESTIYA today accused the United States of trying to deny Syria "its right to self-defence."

The charge followed a Washington report Monday that the Soviet Union had delivered a dozen SAM-5 anti-aircraft missiles to Syria and was preparing to instal them.

The report, quoting a source close to U.S. intelligence, said the missiles, capable of penetrating Israeli and Lebanese airspace, arrived at the Syrian port of Tartus last week.

The United States, IZVESTIYA said, "would like the Arab neighbors of the Israeli expansionists to be completely defenseless, with no possibility of countering the unleashed aggressor equipped with modern weaponry, including sophisticated fighter planes.

IZVESTIYA added that the "concern" expressed by the U.S. State Department over the missiles reflected Washington's "anxiety to exonerate the aggressors."

Washington, it said, "uses Israel as an instrument of aggression and falls back on blackmail, pressure, and flagrant interference in the affairs of sovereign states as it makes increasingly energetic efforts to impose the American-Israeli diktat on the Arab east."

IZVESTIYA continued: "It goes without saying that neither Washington, nor its strategic ally Israel, would like to see a repetition of 1973, when dozens of Israeli aircraft were shot down over Syria.

"This is why the American Administration goes against the United Nations Charter and denies Syria, a sovereign Arab state, its inalienable right to self-defence."

MOSCOW VIEWS U.S. PLANS FOR MIDDLE EAST

LD182024 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] The United States is establishing plans for unleashing and waging a protracted nuclear war based on the belief of winning such a war. This was reported by the U.S. press agency UPI, which acquired a secret report by the Pentagon and the National Security Council entitled: Defense Guidance for Fiscal 1984-88. This report clearly states that the most important element of U.S. strategy is the escalation of the conflict with the participation of forces that have the general objective of fighting a nuclear war.

Special attention is devoted in the document to the Middle East. The document states that the United States must be ready to move its troops to that region if the security of access to the oil in the Gulf region is threatened. The document then points out that there is no need to wait for an invitation from the oil-producing countries.

Thus, the exposed official document of the White House [as heard] tangibly shows anew that the Reagan administration, for the sake of so-called vital interests -- or to be more correct, for the sake of the selfish interests of U.S. monopolies -- is prepared to expose the safety and security of many peoples to danger. Such a right is denied to the U.S Administration.

This is not odd because Washington's foreign policy is the subject of increasingly sharp criticism in Arab countries. The Iraqi paper ATH-THAWRAH said that Washington has been using the same tactics in the region for years and years. It first exacerbates a conflict and then exploits it in order to consolidate its direct presence, proceeding from the far-reaching U.S. imperialist strategic aims. Criticism of Washington by the countries of the world is growing; Washington has adopted a negative and even hostile stance, says the Tunisian paper LE TEMPS.

PRAVDA REPORTS EUROPARLIAMENT MIDEAST RESOLUTION

LD201012 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2305 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow, 20 Jan (TASS) -- European Parliament deputies adopted a resolution at a session in Strasbourg calling for a speedy "global, just and lasting peace settlement" of the problems of the Near East. The resolution is primarily concerned with safeguarding the legitimate rights of the people of Palestine and liquidating the consequences of Israeli aggression against Lebanon, PRAVDA writes today.

For the first time, the resolution recognizes the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, including "the creation of a Palestinian state." Until now the majority of "Common Market" countries, whose representatives sit in the European Parliament, have avoided such formulations in their documents, bowing to pressure from the United States and Israel.

Touching on the Lebanon crisis, the deputies put forward a number of principles for its settlement and declared the "unacceptability" of seizure by force and annexation of foreign territory, which clearly refers to Israel's plans, PRAVDA notes.

As expected, the resolution falls far short of taking into account all the just demands of the victims of Israeli aggression. It even contains attempts to reconcile West Europe's position with the Near East policy of the United States, in order to avoid another clash with Washington on this problem. However, in spite of all this, the new document adopted by EC representatives demonstrates the serious concern of West Europeans at the continuing dangerous development of events in the Near East. It speaks of a further divergence between West Europe and the United States in assessing the events taking place in that region, and of the growing alarm of the EEC countries at the reckless and aggressive Israeli policy, which has U.S. support.

IZVESTIYA DISCUSSES DISCONTENT IN ISRAEL

PM181101 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 7 January, Morning Edition, carries on page five a 1,800-word article by L. Pavlov entitled "The Drug of Militarism." The article discusses what it calls "The cost of Tel Aviv's reckless policy," citing detailed figures allegedly indicating the parlous state of the Israeli economy and showing the cost of the war in Lebanon and of the settlements in the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan Heights. Pavlov says that "Israeli working people's dissatisfaction with the economic situation is acquiring an increasing political dimension." The article concludes by stating that there was "widespread protest in Israel against Israeli aggression against Lebanon," listing the forms of protest.

RSA FORMS 'SPECIAL COMMISSION' TO GOVERN NAMIBIA

LD192314 Moscow TASS in English 2246 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 19 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Seregy Kulik writes:

Foreign newspapers commenting on the latest events in Windhoek carry such headlines as "South Africa's New Fiasco," "The American Plan Does Not Work" and "The Crisis of Government in Namibia." Following the resignation of the head of the Namibian puppet "Government" and the racists' stooge Mudge, the Pretorian authorities have decided to dissolve the so-called bodies of internal self-government of that territory, the National Assembly and the Council of Ministers, set up in their time to camoflage the occupation of Namibia with a semblance of "self-government." Having disbanded these fake institutions, Pretoria has actually admitted the failure of its plan, drawn up not without Washington's assistance, to establish a neo-colonialist regime in Namibia and to perpetuate with its help the control of South Africa and the West over it, thus removing the SWAPO [South West African People's Organization] patriots from participation in a genuine Namibian settlement.

What next? Asking this question, many foreign policy observers agree that the developments in Namibia will most likely boil down to the toughening of the occupation regime by the racists. The archracist Hough, South Africa's general administrator in Namibia, has assumed complete control in the country.

In this way even the semblance of notorious "self-government," quite recently advertised by the racist rulers, has now disappeared in Namibia. A special commission has already been formed in Windhoek to revise and further toughen repressive legislation in Nambian territory: primarily the law on preventive detention. This draconian law allows the South African security forces to imprison without charge or trial anyone suspected of opposition to the occupation status of the country. General Lloyd, commander of the territorial forces of Namibia, who is notorious for his bloody reprisals against the civilian population, has been appointed head of the commission.

All these illegal measures, according to the Tanzanian DAILY NEWS are being carried out with the support of the U.S. Administration. The newspaper points out that the current developments in Namibia are another arrogant challenge of the racists to the international community, advocating Namibian independence in accordance with Resolution 435 of the U.N. Security Council. The Western "contact group" on Namibia does not at all wish to contribute towards the implementation of that resolution. Conversely, it is engaged in active manoeuvres aimed to drag out and eventually thwart the implementation of the U.N. plan. The United States and other Western powers are trying to secure a Namibian "settlement" in the interests of the apartheid state.

The latest demise of the puppet governmental institutions in Windhoek only shows that the "parties" and "bodies of government" fostered by Pretoria have no backing at all from the population and are unable to govern. There is not a single political organization except SWAPO in Namibia that would act efficiently on a national scale and could assume responsibility for the destinies of the Namibian people.

USA, ISRAEL, RSA 'CLOSE THE RING' AROUND ANGOLA

LD191900 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English to Africa 1500 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpt] Israeli Defense Minister Sharon has paid a visit to Zaire.

Commenting on it, the press of many African countries recalls that Tel Aviv's penetration into Africa is one of the main tasks of the Israeli-U.S. memorandum on mutual understanding in the field of strategic cooperation. In May of last year, the Zairean Government, under pressure from the United States, adopted a decision to restore diplomatic relations with Israel and then signed an agreement with Tel Aviv on military cooperation. In order to coordinate concrete measures in carrying this agreement out, the head of the Israeli Defence Ministry paid a visit to Kinshasa. With Washington's complicity, Tel Aviv is planning to obtain, in exchange for its arms supplies to Zaire, certain advantages, using them as a springboard for its penetration into the continent and for conducting undermining activities against the progressive regimes in the region.

Special concern is felt by the African countries over the fact that Israel is first of all trying to take upon itself the task of training the Zairean Airborne Landing Forces, including two battalions of commandos deployed near the Angolan border. Taking due attention of the report appearing in the American press on Washington's intentions to open a second front against Angola along the northern borders of that country, Israel's plans are taking on the most insidiuous nature. Dissatisfied with the aggressive actions of South Africa and the Pretoria-supported UNITA [National Union for Total Independence of Angola] terrorists, the United States is trying to re-animate the FNLA [Angolan National Liberation Front] separatist gangs, calling them up to (?aid) Israel. Relying on their main privileged allies, the Pretorian racists and the Tel Aviv bandits, who are the worst enemies of the Africans, the Reagan administration hopes to close the ring of aggression around Angola, to force its government to agree to work out a plan with Washington for a neocolonial settlement in Namibia.

ETHIOPIAN NAVY CHIEF ARRIVES, MEETS GORSHKOV

PM190953 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Jan 83 Second Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "On Official Visit"]

[Text] Commodore Tesfaye Berhanu, commander of the Naval Forces of socialist Ethiopia, arrived in the Soviet Union on an official visit on 12 January at the invitation of Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union S.G. Gorshkov, commander in chief of the Navy and USSR deputy defense minister.

At Sheremetyevo Airport Commodore Tesfaye Berhanu was met by Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union S.G. Gorshkov and other Soviet admirals and officers.

On 13 January Commodore Tesfaye Berhanu, commander of the Naval Forces of socialist Ethiopia, called on Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union S.G. Gorshkov, commander in chief of the Navy and USSR deputy defense minister.

A friendly talk took place on questions of mutual interest.

On the same day Commodore Tesfaye Berhanu laid wreaths at the V.I. Lenin Mausoleum and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier by the Kremlin Wall.

U.S.-HONDURAN EXERCISES 'PRELUDE TO OPEN WAR'

LD191850 Moscow TASS in English 1616 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 19 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Nikolay Chigir writes: The outlines of the U.S. policy of crushing the Nicaraguan revolution are becoming increasingly clear. There is little doubt now that a large-scale military intervention is the main component part of Washington's anti-Nicaraguan conspiracy. Major joint U.S.-Honduran exercises beginning February 1 provide a new and convincing proof of the fact that the United States is getting ready for an aggression against Nicaragua. More than [number indistinct] servicemen of whom nearly 2,000 are officers and men of the U.S. Armed Forces are to take [words indistinct].

A pronounced anti-Nicaraguan tilt of the exercises announced by an official spokesman from the Pentagon is apparent for they are to be held in the areas of the Honduran territory which border on Nicaragua, that is, in territories which have long been used as a base for raids into Nicaragua. The raids are staged by hired cut-throats of the former Nicaraguan dictator Somoza who have been trained, armed, and dispatched to Honduras by the Pentagon and the CIA.

Foreign policy observers note that it is quite likely that during the forthcoming U.S.-Honduran military exercises coordinated actions of Nicaraguan counter-revolutionaries and Honduran Armed Forces will be practiced, among other things, under the supervision of U.S. instructors. Washington has assigned a prominent role to both Nicaraguan counter-revolutionaries and Honduran Armed Forces in implementing its plans of intervention in Nicaragua. What commands instantaneous attention is urgent measures taken by the United States with the aim of preparing the territory of Honduras into a jumping-off ground for aggression against Nicaragua, for rapidly turning the Honduran Army into a U.S. gendarme in Central America. Suffice it to say that U.S. military aid to Honduras increased ten-fold over the past three years.

It follows from press reports and from statements made by the ring-leaders of the Honduran regime that U.S. special services hope to provoke, with the help of Somoza's followers, a major border conflict between Honduras and Nicaragua. Such a conflict would provide a convenient pretext for subsequent invasion of Nicaragua by Honduran troops and later as a pretext for direct U.S. military intervention.

Not so long ago General G. Alvarez, commander of the Honduran Armed Forces, blabbed out that Honduras and the United States had signed a secret agreement which provides for U.S. armed intervention in Central America in case of emergency. This has been confirmed by the U.S. press as well. For example, last November when the Pentagon started planning the upcoming U.S.-Honduran exercises the American magazine NEWSWEEK said that the exercises could well become a prelude to an open war against Nicaragua.

The upcoming U.S.-Honduran exercises, just as the entire complex of Washington's efforts to undermine Nicaragua, is a flagrant violation of the United Nations Charter and of international law. The Reagan administration with open cynicism ignores the demands of the world community which demands an immediate end to military interference in Central America and a negotiated settlement of conflicts in the region. Such demands sounded once again at the emergency meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of nonaligned countries which was held in Managua a few days ago. But Washington remains deaf to such demands. Military exercises organised by the United States in Honduras confirm that Washington intends to carry on with its interventionist policy.

GRAMOV APPOINTED SPORTS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

LD191540 Moscow TASS in English 1525 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 19 TASS -- Marat Gramov has been appointed chairman of the Committee for Physical Culture and Sports at the Council of Ministers of the USSR.

The Council of Ministers of the USSR relieved Sergey Pavlov of his post as chairman of the Committee for Physical Culture and Sports at the Council of Ministers of the USSR in connection with his tranfer to another job.

RSFSR INSTITUTES MEASURES AGAINST 'PARASITISM'

LD191402 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0200 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] The RSFSR Council of Ministers has determined supplementary measures for stepping up the struggle against people who indulge in an antisocial and parasitic lifestyle, SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA reports. The aim of the steps being taken, the paper writes, is to raise the level of efficiency of preventive work in averting parasitism and to strengthen education work.

PRAVDA CALLS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN SOVIET PRESS

PM191235 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Jan 83 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "The Reader and the Press"]

[Text] The editorial offices of newspapers and journals receive millions of letters annually and many graphic articles by working people are published in the pages of central and local publications. This is not only evidence of the readers' confidence in their press, it is also a tangible manifestation of their sense of being master of the country and of the Soviet person's desire to participate actively in the formation of public opinion and influence the state of affairs in all spheres of life. The editorial mail is a unique barometer of people's mood and a very rich source of subjects for topical articles in the press.

Readers' assessments of publications, their good advice and wishes, and their criticisms are guidelines of considerable importance in journalists' work. This is what (A. Ukhanov) locomotive engineer from Vologda, writes to PRAVDA: "I am a worker correspondent with considerable service and I follow the newspapers attentively. At present, at the start of the 3d year of the 11th 5-Year Plan, a turn can be noted toward deeper analysis of the role of labor collectives in the management of production, the fulfillment of plans and pledges, and the strengthening of order. The tone of certain items and radio and television programs is also pleasing. They are becoming more wholehearted and trusting and they arouse a heartfelt response. But have all press organs restructured themselves since the 26th CPSU Congress? Do they all heed the party's latest instructions? It seems to me that some newspapers still contain much twaddle, articles which are long but aimed at no one in particular and sermons which are general in nature and irritatingly edifying in tone."

Indeed, our Soviet person is no mere consumer of news: He expects from press organs a serious, businesslike, detailed discussion of urgent topics and wants to see in every article and program not only a truthful, up-to-the-minute account of the facts but an intelligent, comprehensive study of them, sensible generalizations and valuable conclusions.

The tasks set by the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum in stepping up the intensification of social production, increasing the efficiency of the national economy, strengthening organization, discipline and responsibility and further developing socialist democracy in the broadest sense make increased demands on press workers. "It is very important for every publication to be profound in content and accessible and graphic in form," noted the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On the Work of the Newspaper TRUD."

Let us look at the effectiveness and efficacy of publications and the ability of editorial collectives to take a matter, once begun, to its logical conclusion. Many articles on leading experience and the achievements of science and technology appear in newspapers and journals. But it is still only rarely that we get reports on their end result and on how many enterprises and farms have studied and introduced the innovation. It is important now not only to find examples of skillful economic management but also to ensure that the best examples of labor organization, the acceleration of scientific and technical progress and thrift are passed on rapidly and disseminated everywhere. In this connection the press' organizing functions should be further developed and strengthened.

The readers notice and support those newspaper campaigns which are conducted consistently and purposefully and yield a tangible return. For instance, in Kirghizia articles by local newspapers under the rubric "All the Fraternal Republics' Orders -- on Schedule and With Excellent Quality" are arousing a notable response. The editorial office of MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA is skillfully publicizing the movement which has been launched in the capital to further strengthen labor and production discipline.

The role of publicity in our socioeconomic life is great. Those readers who express the desire for newspapers -- particularly those with a large circulation -- to report more frequently on everything that concerns the working person are right. People should learn about cadre appointments and the results of the collective discussion of competition results, the distribution of bonuses and travel warrants not from conversation in the corridors or the smoking room, but from their local press. Republic, kray, oblast, city and rayon newspapers must brief readers more comprehensively about the day-to-day activity of the corresponding party committees and soviet, trade union and Komsomol organs. Where this is done people can see clearly, from concrete examples, that the CPSU has no other interests than those of the people, their well-being and prosperity. Writing about the unity of the party and people also means writing with emotion about worthy recruits to the ranks of the Communists from among the best representatives of the working class, peasantry and intelligentsia and about exactingness toward every party member, and revealing the party organization's leading role in the collective.

PRAVDA's mail includes many letters which express concern that certain publications are full of "impersonal" [bezlyudnyy] materials written in gray, inexpressive language. "There is too much description of technology, articles are full of statistics, and there is not enough study of man. I would say," I. Andryushchenko from Kharkov laments, for instance. "Yet how much I would like to read an interesting sketch revealing the best features and traditions of the working class: high awareness, a state approach to the cause, collectivism, organization and discipline, and selflessness in fulfilling one's duty. Nor does a good sketch about rural workers appear often, either. Not enough social portraits of collectives are printed." It should be added that the newspapers should assign a prominent place to articles and observations from production workers themselves -- those who determine, at their place of work, the success of our plans.

The effectiveness of the press is increased considerably if party committees actively support its principled articles and help to competently publicize leading experience and improve the stand and sharpness of criticism.

At the same time the treatment of petty themes and "pinpricks" which only cause irritation must be eliminated from the newspapers.

The decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November plenum and the materials of the jubilee celebrations of the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation open up a broad field of activity for editorial collectives and call for creativity and the strengthening of ties with the masses and the authors' aktiv. Let it become a rule in every editorial office: There is no room in the newspaper for an uninteresting, stereotyped article. Let more meaningful, vivid articles in the press become part of our combat arsenal in the struggle for the implementation of the party's plans and targets for the current year and the whole of the 11th 5-Year Plan.

USEFULNESS OF WORKERS' LETTERS, COMPLAINTS VIEWED

AUCCTU Plenum Discussion

LD191144 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] An AUCCTU plenum is at work today in Moscow. Comrade Shalayev, AUCCTU chairman, delivered a report on the work of trade union organizations in strengthening labor discipline and further improving work conditions on the shop floor. He emphasized that in putting forward new, more complex tasks of greater and greater scope for the economic and social development of the country, the party's Central Committee attaches much significance to the strengthening of state and labor discipline. Many letters come from working people to the AUCCTU and the central committees and the trades union councils on these questions. They justly point out that in the struggle for the improvement of labor discipline, the role of trades union organizations should be increased.

PRAVDA Editorial

PM181423 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Dec 82 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Working People's Letters"]

[Excerpt] Thousands of letters voicing Soviet people's daily concerns are received each day by party, state and economic organs and by newspaper and journal editorial offices. These living human documents are evidence of Soviet people's high political activeness and their readiness to work conscientiously to strengthen the might of their socialist motherland and successfully fulfill the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress.

Unswervingly following Leninist traditions, the Communist Party pays unremitting attention to citizens' verbal and written appeals and regards them as an effective means of the expression of public opinion. Recently the CPSU Central Committee Politburo examined the question of working people's letters recently received by the party Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

These letters, which are the working people's mandate to party and soviet organs, express the broad masses' unanimous support for the CPSU's domestic and foreign policy and their profound interest in strengthening our motherland's economic and defense might and in consolidating peace and international security. The letters attest to the inviolable unity of the party and people and to Soviet people's close cohesion around the CPSU and its Central Committee. They express deep understanding for national economic problems and a desire to make fuller use of the available reserves.

In their letters, Soviet people -- as the real masters of the country -- make suggestions and criticisms aimed at improving labor organization and striving for economy and thrift and raise fundamental questions of intensifying the struggle against mismanagement, deception, violations of state, labor and production discipline, and embezzlement of socialist property. Many letters mention the need to resolutely improve the

organization of work to monitor and verify the execution of decisions adopted by local soviets concerning people's daily life, supplies, housing allocation, health care and leisure. Questions of intensifying the maintenance of law and order in cities and inhabited rural areas, which seriously worry the working people, are pointedly raised by them.

The PRAVDA mailbag contains many complaints of this nature. In recent weeks alone the editorial office has dispatched the following summaries of letters: to Vladimir Obkom -- on the poor utilization of the housing pool in a number of cities and villages in the oblast; to Lipetsk Obkom -- on instances of the violation of the rules for housing allocation at individual enterprises; to the Moldavian CP Central Committee and the RSFSR Ministry of Health -- on shortcomings in the population's medical services in certain cities and villages of the republics. Complaints are being received from Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan that the students of many schools and tekhnikums are being taken away from their studies for long periods and sent to work on the cotton harvest.

Although the standard of work with working people's letters has risen appreciably in recent years, it can and must be considerably more efficient and effective. It is incumbent on party and soviet organs and on ministries and departments to ensure the absolute fulfillment of earlier-adopted decisions on work with letters and on organizing the reception of citizens and to adopt the necessary additional measures for the attentive examination and resolution of the questions contained in the letters. It is necessary to ensure broad publicity in examining working people's proposals and to make better use the experience of open letter days, which have proved their worth, reports by leaders to labor collectives and other forms of work with letters. Members of party committees, deputies, leading workers, kolkhoz members and the intelligentsia must take a more active part in this.

Timely and effective reaction to critical signals, which are of important public significance, must become an immutable law for every party committee and ministry and department collegium. Party obkoms, gorkoms and raykoms are called upon to systematically monitor the examination of letters in institutions and organizations and regularly discuss the related problems at plenums and bureau sessions. Of course, we must resolutely put an end to instances of a lack of objectivity in the verification of complaints, attempts to suppress criticism, persecution of letters writers, and any manifestations of bureaucracy, red tape and unscrupulousness and strictly call to account those officials who concern themselves primarily with "the honor of the regiment." It is the duty of leaders of party, soviet and economic organs to set a personal example of a caring and genuinely party attitude toward working people's letters and toward their requests and needs.

Letters are an important channel of living communication between the party and the masses, one of the means of realizing the constitutional rights of Soviet citizens. At the present stage of development of Soviet society, which is typified by the further development of socialist democracy in its very broadest sense, work with letters assumes a special significance.

Constantly relying on the collective experience of Soviet people and being attentive to their proposals and practical criticisms means involving the broad masses still more actively in the management of the socialist economy and in all society's affairs.

CPSU CONGRATULATES UKRAINIAN MINE WORKERS

PM191551 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Jan 83 Second Edition p 1

[Text] To the mine construction workers, installation workers, operators, party, trade union and Komsomol organizations and all participants in the construction of the Zapadno-Donbasskaya No. 21/22 mine of the Ukrainian SSR Ministry of the Coal Industry

Dear comrades!

The CPSU Central Committee welcomed with great satisfaction the report that on the eve of the glorious jubilee -- the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation -- the large-scale highly mechanized Zapadno-Donbasskaya No. 21/22 mine with an annual capacity of 1.5 million tons of coal was completed and commissioned in Dnepropetrovsk Oblast.

Your labor successes are a good example of a businesslike approach toward implementing the demands of the 26th CPSU Congress with regard to enhancing the efficiency of capital construction and building up the country's fuel and energy potential. The maximum concentration of manpower and material resources, the use of advanced work methods, the active organizational and political work of the party, economic, trade union and Komsomol organizations in strengthening labor and production discipline and developing mass socialist competition have enabled the construction and installation worker collectives to ensure the comprehensive commissioning of this important project.

The CPSU Central Committee expresses the certainty that your example will be widely supported and disseminated among the mine construction workers of the sector and will promote the accelerated buildup of coal mining capacities in the current 5-year plan.

We wish you, dear comrades, new labor successes in implementing the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum.

CPSU Central Committee

RECENT LEADER APPEARANCES, MEETINGS REPORTED

Aliyev, International Meteorologists

LD192024 Moscow TASS in English 1819 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Moscow January 19 TASS -- Geydar Aliyev, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, has received in the Kremlin today members of the bureau of the Executive Committee of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) who arrived in the Soviet Union to attend the seventh meeting of the bureau's session.

Aliyev at Maritime Meeting

LD182110 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 18 Jan 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] An extended session was held today of the collegium of the Maritime Fleet Ministry and the Presidium of the Central Committee of the trade union of workers of the maritime and river fleet, with the participation of heads of maritime shipping

lines, ports, directors of ship repair yards, heads of departments and associations of ministries, secretaries of party committees of shipping lines, and chairmen of basin trade union committees. Comrade Aliyev, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, spoke at the session.

Solomentsev at RSFSR Agricultural Parley

LD141544 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] The most important tasks in preparing for spring sowing were reviewed in Kalinin today at a conference of leading workers from oblasts of the Central economic region of Russia and leading officials of ministries and departments of the RSFSR included in the agroindustrial complex. Unsolved questions, measures to be taken for successfully implementing plans for the production and sale to the state of agricultural goods in the current year and the period of the 5-year plan were discussed. Special attention was paid to preparing seeds and machinery. The speakers stressed that kolkhozes and sovkhozes must increase the fertility of the soil and efficiently use fertilizer. Progress in implementing the party and government decision on the further development and increased efficiency of agricultural production in the Nonchernozem Zone of the RSFSR was also comprehensively discussed.

Comrade Solomentsev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, spoke at the conference. During his visit to Kalinin Oblast, Comrade Solomentsev visited industrial enterprises, construction sites and a number of kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

SAKHAROV APPEALS FOR HUMANITARIAN, LEGAL AID

LD191814 Hamburg DPA in German 1738 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Bonn, 19 Jan (DPA) -- Andrey Sakharov, the critic of the Soviet regime who has been banished to Gorkiy, has asked in a new appeal to all the signatories of the Helsinki Final Act for "humanitarian and legal" aid. The appeal will be published in the Friday edition of the newspaper RHEINISCHER MERKUR/Christ und Welt. According to the appeal Sakharov accuses the Soviet authorities of illegality and despotism and complains that he has been robbed several times and even drugged. Above all, the famous physicist fears new acts of repression "or even crimes," because the responsible state prosecutor has threatened "to call him mercilessly to account." The Sakharov contribution was prereleased to DPA in an edited form.

AFP: AUTHORITIES SUMMON HISTORIAN ROY MEDVEDEV

NC191847 Paris AFP in English 1838 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow, Jan 19 (AFP) -- Dissident historian Roy Medvedev has been summoned by Soviet authorities to "cease his activities prejudicial to the Soviet state" or be indicted, it was reported here today.

In a document received here by Western correspondents, Mr Medvedev said the summons was notified to him by the deputy chief prosecutor of the Soviet Union yesterday.

Mr Medvedev was told that his writings published abroad over the last 14 years were a deliberate attack on the Soviet social system.

The historian, author of "Stalinism" and other works, rejected the allegations, which he said were made "without any legal inquiry or proof."

SHISHKOV ON LABOR DISCIPLINE, PROCURACY DUTIES

LD172334 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1010 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Talk by Sergey Aleksandrovich Shishkov, USSR deputy procurator general and state justice counselor: "Labor Discipline and the Law"]

[Excerpts] It is in creative and inspired labor, in work that you throw yourself into completely, that broad opportunities for self-assertion and the formation of lofty feelings of one's own worth, and honor and pride in one's work are opened up to Soviet people. Again and again, however, the question of strengthening labor discipline must be raised. This is because plans and contractual deliveries are still not always fulfilled and plan targets are still being revised downward with no justification. More often than not it is the result of someone's inefficiency or irresponsibility. There are still some labor collectives where, hidden behind moderately successful production figures, there are losses and unevenness in individual departments while lounging behind the front-ranking workers here and there are idlers, bunglers and drunkards.

As public prosectuion cases show, loss of work time due to absenteeism, enforced idleness and people not turning up for work with the permission of the management have remained at the same level without decreasing for years in individual sectors of the national economy and at a number of enterprises and offices. In certain places it has even become the custom. At these places no value is attached to working time. The cost of this to society is very great. One working minute in the country as a whole is equivalent in value to the results of a day's work by 200,000 workers, or more than R41 million worth of industrial output.

Absenteeism is increasing in certain enterprises in a number of oblasts in the RSFSR, the Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Kirghizia, Lithuania, Latvia and certain other republics. This is due to the fact that the chiefs and management of these associations and enterprises not only do not attach fundamental importance to absenteeism, but, what is worse, in trying to paint the situation in a rosier light, they frequently conceal facts of carelessness and thereby indulge the wrong-doers. As a result, persistent violators of labor discipline are often paid wages for the days they have been absent from work and even get bonuses.

One of the chief reasons for absenteeism is people coming to work in a state of intoxication or not coming in to work for the same reason. Unfortunately, one can cite many examples of alcohol consumption even in factories. Pitenko, a punch operator at the Frunze heavy electrical engineering works, got so drunk at work that he fell into a pit in the carpentry shop. Fortunately he was pulled out of the pit quickly and taken to the sobering-up room. There are, however, many cases where drunkenness leads not only to a drop in labor productivity and plan targets not being met, but also to outrageous violations of safety regulations and, in the final analysis, to serious accidents.

It is obvious that labor discipline is closely connected with correct labor organization. Neglect in this area is impermissible. Where it does exist, conscientious workers must insist that it be eliminated in the interest of the common good. In this connection, dear listeners, I would like to quote from a letter from a Kharkov inhabitant, Comrade Chernyshev, to the editorial office of TRUD. I quote: "It all to often happens, does it not, that certain chiefs conceal their inability to properly organize the work of those under them by slogans and demands such as 'we must do this and that', or 'let us do this and that' and so forth. It often happens at our place of work that during working hours there is nothing to do, but after work and over the weekend there is more work than anyone can cope with.

As for the mass of work to be done at the end of the month, the end of the quarter or the end of the year -- it leaves me speechless. If that isn't poor labor organization, I don't know what is." And so it is: How can one speak of strict discipline in ensuring that work is done during working hours if a worker must wait for hours for a billet to be brought to his machine tool or if builders must wait for the good-quality construction materials that they need to be delivered to them; in other words, if people have to wait for the conditions necessary for them to work efficiently and productively?

Some production chiefs try to make up for lost work time by last-minute rush work, by using overtime or by bringing in people to work on their days off. Another alarming thing is that in a number of cases, when workers have finished their overtime work, they are paid in cash which is immediately used to acquire alcohol.

The procurator of the Kazakh Republic wrote to the republican minister of construction of heavy industry enterprises drawing his attention to the fact that at many construction sites the ministry was infringing overtime work legislation since it was being used, as a rule, not in exceptional circumstances but due to the deep-rooted practice of stirring workers out of inactivity at the beginning of the month, then doing last-minute rush work using every worker possible at the end of the month. The procurator of Azerbaijan wrote to the republic trade union council that the low level of production organization, uneven functioning of individual enterprises and high staff turnover had frequently brought about the need to use overtime work on a wide scale and hence the overspending of state funds. Similar conclusions were also contained in letters from procurators to chiefs of ministries and departments in other union republics.

Instead of improving labor efficiency by organizing production properly, certain chiefs of economic organizations hire workers from outside and, contrary to existing legislation, pay them large amounts of money. This is conducive to seasonal migration by a certain sector of the population in search of high wages. These people, who, as you know, are commonly called "freelancers" [shabashniki], travel to towns and various areas in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Georgia, Moldavia and other union republics where they work only during the summer. Sometimes these people are hired for temporary work and are not asked to present their identification papers or work record cards. Some of these "freelancers" have even turned out to be criminals on the run.

This problem has another aspect, too. As a result of a negligent attitude on the part of certain chiefs to the observance of labor legislation, many workers are dismissed in a manner contrary to the law and are later reinstated in their jobs by the courts. Those thus reinstated include many who are persistent offenders against labor discipline. However, nonobservance of the established procedure for dismissal, ignorance of the law or inability to use the law lead to these people coming back to their place of work by decision of the court and even to their receiving payment for their enforced period of absence.

Enormous amounts of money are spent on payments for enforced periods of absence and it can be said that this money is a direct and completely unjustified loss to the state. There are extremely few cases of compensation being sought from officials guilty of illegal dismissals, so here again the state pays for bungling.

Violations of labor discipline are closely connected with negative phenomena such as poor management. In certain enterprises there is no strict accountability for material assets, no adequate provision for storing raw materials or the finished products.

Sometimes raw materials, finished products and machinery are lying about in the dirt in the factory yard, spoiling in all weather conditions and falling to bits. Naturally a situation like this cannot instill in people a high sense of responsibility for their work or for the property of the people. From this stems the output of reject products and the negligent attitude to carrying out one's duties at work. For example, in the Glavbashstroy construction organizations in Bashkiria there have been many instances of embezzlement and false accounting, writing off and then illegally marketing construction material assets.

The party Central Committee and the Soviet Government constantly call for enhancing in every possible way the role of the work collective in strengthening discipline and in strictly observing the internal labor regulations. In dealing with transgressors it is necessary to make use not only of the power of persuasion but also the power of the law. Workers themselves are saying that it is time to do away with the liberal attitude to drunkards, to fight against those leading an antisocial way of life, against the idlers and the drifters. Regrettably, the public organizations and, in particular, the comrades' courts in many enterprises do not yet fight with sufficient determination for strengthening labor discipline. Certain managers in the economy do not fully appreciate their role and powers. Therefore, many comrades' courts are not active at all.

In supervising the adherence to labor legislation, the procurator's office is uncovering and eliminating violations of the law, the reasons behind these unlawful acts and the contributory circumstances. Those responsible are called to account. In certain cases they are punished according to the procedure for criminal offenses. In the fight against breaches of labor legislation the procurator's office has become more active in making those found guilty liable to material compensation.

In recent years, on the procurator's presentation, many hundreds of people have been prosecuted for violations of labor legislation with suits for material compensation. More and more often procurators bring in back-dated action for recovery from those guilty of the material losses suffered due to violations of labor legislation. In 1981 procurators filed 6,900 such suits to the sum of over R3 million. In the prevention of the above-mentioned law violations, there is a growing role for a form of procurator's response such as warning the persons holding office regarding the inadmissibility of violating the law. Particularly actively this practice is being employed, for instance, in Belorussia, Lithuania, Moldavia and in some oblasts of the RSFSR. Taking an active part in the popularization of Soviet legislation, the bodies of the procurator's office are paying particular attention to explaining the laws pertaining to labor and to strengthening labor discipline.

On 12 January of this year the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet discussed the issue of the activities of the Procuracy and heard a report from Aleksandr Mikhaylovich Rekunkov, USSR procurator general. The Supreme Soviet Presidium proposed that the Procuracy bodies should adopt measures directed toward a fuller use of the powers conferred upon them by the Constitution and the USSR legislature with regard to carrying out overall supervision of the strict and uniform adherence to the laws over the entire territory of the country overriding any possible local or departmental influence. The Procuracy was instructed on the necessity of ensuring unconditional implementation of the tasks set by the party Central Committee concerning the improved defense of labor and other rights and legitimate interests of the citizens; of ensuring the thorough and speedy investigation of petitions and complaints relating to breaches of law and state discipline; and of improving the efficacy of supervision over the observance of legislation regarding the investigation of appeals from working people addressed to management bodies at enterprises, institutes and organizations. The adopted decision cannot be overestimated.

Huge tasks are facing the Procuracy. Unquestionably, they must be solved. There will be improved and more active Procuracy supervision so that it would not only provide for the punishment of those who break the law but also would help eliminate the causes and conditions which give rise to violations of the law. In short, this supervision must be active and preventive. We must work through all available forms and means to increase the role and accountability of economic managers and officials in the observance of law in the sectors placed under their responsibility at enterprises and organizations.

Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov stressed in his speech at the November CPSU Central Committee plenum that it is necessary to start a decisive battle against all infringements of party, state and labor discipline. The workers of the Procuracy bodies consider it their primary duty to participate in the implementation of this task set by the party, and in the implementation of measures which are enthusiastically approved by the Soviet people.

LETTERS URGE TOUGHER MEASURES AGAINST ABSENTEEISM

PM181543 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian on 5 January in its Second Edition publishes on page 3 a 1,400-word roundup of readers' letters by N. Mikhaylov, under the heading "Payment for Absenteeism Must Be Strict and Unavoidable." The roundup takes the form of a "collective letter" prepared by Mikhaylov from letters to the paper in response to an article on absenteeism published last July. The writers call for more strict punishments for absentees and violators of labor discipline, including wage cuts and reduced pensions for persistent offenders. They note that "at present, not the absentee but the leader is held responsible for absenteeism, as a result of which 90 percent of absenteeism is covered up," and therefore it is the offender himself, not the leader, who should be punished, while "connivance should be punished as strictly as the absenteeism itself." The "collective letter" also calls for bonuses to be withheld from such offenders. Mikhaylov notes in conclusion: "The country's working people are presenting their workers account to the violators of production discipline. The account will have to be paid one way or another."

PRAVDA EDITORIAL VIEWS PARTY COMMISSIONS

PM171021 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Jan 83 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Party Commissions"]

[Text] This is the 3d year of the 5-year plan. Party organizations and labor collectives are seeking to worthily fulfill the tasks advanced by the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum. Here the improvement of the style and method of party leadership and of the monitoring and verification of execution plays a tremendous role.

In recent years the Leninist principles of the organization of monitoring have enjoyed further development. The substance of monitoring has been enriched, its planning principles have strengthened, and its forms and methods have become more diverse. Attention to this important matter has intensified since the publication of the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On Further Improving the Monitoring and Verification of Execution in the Light of the 26th CPSU Congress Decisions." Thus, the party commissions under the Ukrainian, Belorussian, Azerbaijan and Lithuanian CP Central Committees, under the Moscow Gorkom and the Leningrad, Sverdlovsk and Voronezh Obkoms and many others have supplemented their practice with valuable new experience.

Among the wide and multifaceted range of the monitoring organ's duties it is important to single out the most urgent ones at the present stage. The following four lines are those defined as the chief ones in the work of the party commission under the Georgian CP Central Committee: observance of delivery discipline by leaders and Communists and the fulfillment of contractual pledges; the efficient utilization of production capacities; economy, thrift and observance of financial discipline; the struggle against manifestations of parochialism and departmentalism; and the immodesty of individual communists.

Permanent sectorial monitoring groups have been set up on a voluntary basis for all four directions. They directly monitor the execution of adopted decisions and inform the party commission of the state of affairs in the sector.

Many examples could be cited where the purposeful efforts of party commissions have helped to enhance the efficiency and quality of work, contributed to the on-schedule commissioning of construction projects nearing completion and helped to preserve material and energy resources. The chief thing is the effectiveness of monitoring and the achievement of tangible results. Lenin's instruction -- "know how to set to rights" -- still remains topical today.

Party control is called upon to educate cadres in the spirit of high discipline and strict observance of the CPSU rules. Liberalism, unwarranted leniency and, still more, connivance at those who have committed an offense are quite inadmissible here. Such an approach not only frees from responsibility those who behave unworthily but also harms the cause of the correct education of cadres. This must not be permitted. It is necessary to firmly stand guard over the norms of party life and have an effective influence on eradicating negative phenomena. Mismanagement, waste, deception of the state, red tape -- in short, any deviations from our moral foundations must receive an uncompromising party assessment. It is necessary to increase responsibility for the observance of the interests of the whole state and the whole people and resolutely eradicate departmentalism and parochialism.

It is very important not to confine oneself to stating individual facts but without fail to expose their causes and find those who are chiefly to blame. For example, the party commission under the Armenian CP Central committee learned of dishonest deals between "shady operators" and certain rayon workers and farm leaders. The facts evident, as the saying goes. But the party commission decided to delve deeper -- to check the observance of state discipline in the republic's Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry. The check established that, following requests from the leading workers of certain rayons, the leaders of this ministry and of subordinate enterprises let them have a considerable amount of stockpiled [fondiruyemyy] materials, frequently through "shady operators," who then sold them at an exorbitant price to farms, and brought in a large unearned income. As a result of the check, party proceedings were instituted against G. Vartanyan, minister of the construction materials industry, and two of his deputies, and they were dismissed from their posts; the chief of the ministry's supply and sales administration was expelled from the CPSU; and strict proceedings were also taken against certain leaders of combines and quarry administrations.

The examination of appeals occupies a significant place in the work of party commissions. It demands great attention and a sympathetic attitude toward the appellant, but at the same time an exacting approach to evaluating the misdemeanors of those who violate regulations and behave incorrectly. When examining personal affairs it is important to rely on the opinion of primary party organizations and take it into consideration without fail. At the same time it is necessary to enhance their responsibility for the decisions adopted.

The letters which working people write to party commissions help to carry out monitoring. They report violations of party and state discipline and of the norms of party morality and the suppression of criticism. Letters are checked, as a rule, by going to the site, and measures are taken to eliminate the shortcomings and violations which come to light. An analysis of the mail makes it possible to better see a particular problem awaiting a solution. Thus, on the basis of checks carried out by the party commission, the Ivanovo Obkom Bureau condemned the practice of reshuffling failed leaders and took measures aimed at preventing such occurrences.

Party commissions are very busy and have many cares. The 26th party congress pointed out that verification of execution still remains a bottleneck in the work of a considerable number of party organizations.

In the light of the CPSU Central Committee May (1982) plenum decisions, more attention must be devoted to the struggle against losses and spoilage of agricultural produce. There must be stronger cooperation between party commissions and people's control organs, Soviet standing commissions and trade union organizations. At the same time it cannot be considered normal when one commission replaces another in the same enterprise or establishment. The analytical work of party controllers needs further improvement.

The CPSU rules state: "The party has one discipline and one law for all Communists, regardless of their services and the posts that they hold." The strict observance of this requirement is an important guarantee that the responsibility of every party member and his activeness in the struggle for our great ideals and for the fulfillment of the tasks outlined will increase still further.

IZVESTIYA EDITORIAL ON LEGAL EDUCATION WORK

PM130919 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Jan 83 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Observing Soviet Laws Strictly"]

[Text] The moral foundations of the socialist society are built on respect and trust for man. Our laws serve man's interests. Strict observance of them is the lofty duty and paramount obligation of every USSR citizen. Reliable law and order is directly connected with the fulfillment of the requirements of discipline: by everyone, everywhere, in every sector, in all spheres of administration. Violators of discipline must be held strictly to account. "It is necessary more resolutely to combat any violations of party, state and labor discipline," Comrade Yu. V. Andropov stressed in his speech at the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum. "I am confident that in this we will meet with the full support of party and trade union organizations, the support of all Soviet people." Well-organized legal education work promotes the resolution of the task of further strengthening legality and law and order.

A clear program for the legal education of all working people is formulated in the 26th party congress decisions and in a number of documents of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. This work includes legal propaganda and the legal enlightenment of the population. It is based on the profound study of the USSR Constitution and Soviet legislation.

The soviets of people's deputies are doing much in this respect. The Belorussian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has adopted a resolution "on further improving work in propagandizing Soviet legislation and carrying out universal legal education in the republic in the light of the requirements of the 26th CPSU Congress and the 29th Belorussian CP Congress," drawing particular attention to the need to incorporate legal education measures in the socioeconomic development plans of enterprises, rayons and cities and to create councils for legal education and the prevention of violations of the law in all labor collectives. Shortly after the collegium of the Belorussian Ministry of Justice discussed the question of the work of the justice department of the Gomel Oblispolkom in fulfilling this resolution, noting positive experience and pointing out new reserves for improving this activity. Such monitoring and businesslike cooperation between the soviets and justice organs help to make the propagandization of Soviet legislation among broad strata of the population more effective. This cooperation also serves the cause of strengthening state discipline.

The development of high legal standards in every young citizen and the education of young men and women in the spirit of respect for Soviet laws and the norms of communist morality are tasks of great state significance.

Lectures, talks, readers' and viewers' conferences, question and answer evenings on legal themes, meetings with workers on law enforcement organs, legal knowledge contests, raids by "Komsomol searchlight" posts and operational Komsomol detachments of voluntary people's militia and other legal education measures are being held everywhere in our country. They undoubtedly play an important part in propagandizing the provisions of the fundamental law and the constitutions of union and autonomous republics. It is the duty of Soviet workers, representatives of law enforcement organs, the Znaniye Society, the mass media and cultural enlightenment institutions to organize these measures for young people efficiently and to a high standard.

Measures have been adopted in recent years to introduce a legal course in all the country's educational institutions. Much work has been done to provide textbooks, methodological and visual aids and educational movies and filmstrips. But the quality of teaching in this discipline is not yet in accordance with modern demands everywhere. The departments concerned, in particular the USSR Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education, should devote more attention to this matter. Such forms of legal education work as "Youth and the Law" schools and clubs, law-oriented film and lecture centers and detachments of young Dzerzhintsy and young friends of the militia have been developed recently. A useful initiative was put forth by the Armenian Ministry of Justice and Komsomol Central Committee, which created special faculties, based on universities of legal knowledge, for young workers in industry and agriculture.

At hundreds and thousands of enterprises in our country unremitting attention is devoted to the working people's legal education. This work is well organized at the enterprises and organizations of the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy. Thus at the Magnitogorsk metallurgical combine a comprehensive legal education system is in operation, with differentiated courses for the administration and leaders of public organizations, for workers under the age of 18, and so forth. For Dneprospetsstal plant provides for the study of legislation for specialists new to the enterprise and young specialists on the basis of special programs. Here they are well aware that discipline and order are interconnected concepts.

Legal education work is developing increasingly in the countryside. This is promoted, for instance, by the all-union contest and review which is under way, with the participation of all the public legal advice offices which have been set up at enterprises and organizations in the sphere of agriculture, water resources, land reclamation and the supply of production equipment for agriculture, at interfarm organizations and kolkhozes and also under trade union raykoms. Such measures help to improve the working people's standard of legal knowledge and strengthen labor discipline.

Efficiently organized legal education work at people's places of residence is very important. Good experience has been accrued in Estonia. Thus, there is a public council attached to the Narva City Soviet of which one section is concerned with legal knowledge. Legal experts are frequent and welcome guests in all residential districts.

The Znaniye Society has tremendous opportunities for propagandizing Soviet laws. But the quality of some lectures leaves something to be desired. Radio and television are not yet sufficiently utilized. Much remains to be done in this direction by workers of law enforcement organs too.

The role and significance of legal education work are defined by the fact that it is an important part of Soviet people's communist education. Every effort must be made to ensure that respect for the law and legislation becomes the personal conviction of every person.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS FOR 13-18 JANUARY

LD200206 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 13, 17, and 18 January. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

13 January

Tajik agricultural machine operators have begun preparations for spring sowing. The republican statistical service has reported that today cleaning of almost half of the interfarm irrigation and drainage collector networks has been completed. This year cotton will occupy more than 300,000 hectares in the republic. Almost half of the necessary sowing material has been prepared for spring. (0900 GMT)

South Ukraine farms are preparing for spring. The oblast must produce more than 2.5 million tons of grain in 1983. This is not easy because the weather does them no favors. The protracted drought in autumn last year yielded productive results from winter grain from only 50 percent of areas which means that the areas sown to spring grain is doubled. The situation is exacerbated by the fact that spring grain crops generally provide a lesser yield than winter crops; therefore, radical measures are being applied in the oblast to ensure the production of the planned gross grain harvest. The area of corn for grain is being extended. This year corn will occupy almost 150,000 hectares in the oblast and everything will be done to ensure a yield of no less than 35 quintals per hectare. Sowing of peas is increasing substantially in the oblast. Sowing of sorghum grain has been increased to 23-30 hectares instead of the 1,500 hectares planned previously, and the traditional spring crops of barley, oats and millet have their place. Despite the changes in sowing, the oblast's main grain has to be obtained from the winter fields. Therefore, observation of the course of the wintering of winter crops has been set up and measures are directed at obtaining high-quality grain of winter crops and no less than 35-40 quintals per hectare. (1600 GMT)

Belorussia, Kazakhstan, the Altay and the Baltic area receive corn seeds from the grading works in Odessa Oblast. A total of 60,000 tons of these seeds have been prepared for this year's sowing season. However, the dispatch of seeds is being delayed by a shortage of packaging -- special paper bags which are provided by the Kehra paper combine in Estonia. This nonobservance of contractual discipline is threatening the supply of valuable sowing materials, especially in the southern areas where the start of the sowing season is near. (1630 GMT)

17 January

Turken farmers have plowed under spring crops on an area of more than 500,000 hectares which is almost 100,000 hectares more than last year. The Food Program envisages putting into service between 180,000 and 190,000 hectares in the republic during 10 months. (1630 GMT)

18 January

This year a very difficult situation has come about in winter fields in the main crop in Krasnodar Kray. Last autumn was dry and many thousands of hectares of wheat and barley did not come up. There was no rain at all. The December rains and warm weather have improved the situation to a certain extent and seeds have taken. Farm experts say that the situation is getting better. Progress is monitored in each field and additional mineral fertilizer is being applied from the air. Kuban farmers have laid in more than the planned amount of seed for the spring sowing and for resowing some winter crop areas.

According to the kray headquarters, 104 percent of the required amount of corn seed has been laid in and 106 percent of spring wheat, chiefly first- and second-class quality. In the southern Ukraine, the weather has grievously afflicted the region's chief crop, the winter sown crops. In Nikolayev Oblast, for instance, about half of these remain. The spring sown area is to be sharply increased, using high-yield strains of barley yielding 35-40 quintals per hectare. The area sown to corn is to be almost doubled using industrial technological methods to cultivate 70 percent of the sown area. Yields of over 70 quintals per hectare of corn have been shown to be possible in the area. Groat and leguminous sowings are to be expanded considerably. Since it seems there will be no winter at all here this year, preparations are under way for February sowing. Seed, machinery and mineral fertilizer are being readied. In Smolensk the planned amount of seed has been laid in, plus an additional amount for insurance. The area sown to high-yield barley Nosovskiy-9 is to be tripled. A new strain of flax bred by Smolensk researchers -- Soyuz -- is to be widely sown this year. This ripens early and contains more fiber than other strains. Every day 60,000-62,000 tons of fertilizer is being delivered to the fields. (0905 GMT)

'UNUSUALLY COLD' WEATHER DAMAGING ARMENIAN CROPS

LD200158 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 15 Jan 83

[Summary] This winter has been unusually cold in Armenia. For nearly 50 days there has been a sharp drop in temperature all over the republic, with snowfalls. January has been particularly cold, with temperatures during the first 15 days averaging 13-15 degree centigrade lower than normal. This is only the second time in the last 100 years that such persistent cold weather has been registered in Armenia.

As a result of the early cold weather, there has been an interruption in the plant hardening process and their resistance to the cold has diminished. Scientists from the Armenian scientific research institute for vine-growing, wine-making and fruit-growing are studying the nature and degree of damage sustained by the plants and working out specific agrotechnical measures to combat as well as possible the losses suffered in each region of the republic.

BRIEFS

AZERBAIJAN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION -- The Ministry of Agriculture in Azerbaijan has predicted that the volume of agricultural products in Azerbaijan this year will increase by 5 percent over the figures attained in 1981 [as heard]. Irrespective of bad weather conditions, good quality cotton, grapes, corn [word indistinct], fruits, [word indistinct] and other products are grown in the republic. In order to contribute toward increased agricultural produce, the state will purchase meat, milk and other products at a higher price beginning next year. [Text] [Baku International Service in Azeri 1300 GMT 12 Jan 83 GF]